FBIS DAILY REPORT

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RATTENBACH COMMISSION REPORTS ON FALKLANDS WAR

PY241258 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1040 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Aug (DYN) -- The commission headed by General Benjamin Rattenbach, which was created by the military junta to evaluate the South Atlantic conflict with Great Britain, has revealed that gross mistakes were committed in the military, political, and economic conduct of the war, and that many of them were caused by failure to make plans and lack of adequate information, according to a newspaper report.

The commission also notes that the military officers responsible for the errors should be judged by the appropriate military courts. The ones responsible would be those who were members of the military junta -- General Leopoldo Galtieri, Admiral Jorge Anaya, and Brigadier General Basilio Lami Dozo -- as well as the then military commander of the Malvinas, General Mario Menendez and the Third Infantry Brigade Commander, General Omar Parada. The list of those responsible for the errors also includes then Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez and Economy Minister Roberto Alemann, as well as the head of the Joint Staff, Commander Vice Admiral Leopoldo A. Suarez del Cerro.

A summary of the Rattenbach Commission report was published today by the newspaper LA VOZ, which claims to have obtained it after it was distributed among political leaders. The report, divided into three chapters, analyzes the errors in the conduct of the war, those responsible for the errors and the appropriate juridical measures, and the role of the press, which is said to have had an "overly optimistic spirit, which frequently had to be reigned in."

The report also notes the lack of coordination among the three services of the Armed Forces during the Malvinas war, particularly "the notorious fault of disregarding the common good, with each service trying to wage war on its own."

In the report's introduction, the members of the commission, comprised of an equal number of representatives of the three services, emphasize that they would only "assess personal responsibility, not the responsibility of military or civilian institutions," adding that from the beginning they maintained the idea that "the investigation had to be carried out without hesitation as the best way to uphold the prestige of the Armed Forces."

In the chapter referring to errors in the conduct of the war, the report mentions the bad counsel, especially at the outset of the conflict, which Foreign Minister Costa Mendez gave the military junta regarding possible world reaction to the military takeover of the Malvinas. It also indicates that Costa Mendez should have told the junta that such action was not advisable in view of the unfavorable world image of Argentina, which is a signatory of the UN Charter, regarding the question of human rights, and in view of "our unfavorable position in the UN Security Council, of which Great Britain is a veto-empowered permanent member, and that therefore no approval of the Argentine military action could be expected from that body."

The report adds that "Foreign Minister Costa Mendez committed two serious mistakes: 1) underestimating Great Britain's diplomatic and military capabilities and its morale and pride; and 2) taking for granted a complacent or neutral attitude on the part of the United States." The report also blames Costa Mendez for failing to point out to the junta that after hostilities started, "the evolution of the conflict would not lead to negotiations, and that the passage of time would make negotiations even more difficult," considering that the military takeover was ostensibly intended to bring about diplomatic negotiations.

It also notes that actions were adopted on the basis of a "rigid" and therefore outmoded concept of sovereignty, a concept which nowadays is applied with flexibility, in "accordance with the interests of each country" -- a concept the government admitted later because of "the gradual evolution of the negotiations proposed by the United States, Peru, and the United Nations."

After stating that "almost all the charges made above against the foreign minister can also be made against the military junta which, as the nation's supreme authority, was also responsibile for the conduct of the nation's foreign policy," the report goes on to analyze the errors in the military strategic area. The report says that "the junta's conduct of the war was flawed at the outset because of the lack of a strategically clear military objective." Consequently, "only the initial stages of war were planned, leaving the planning of the final stages, the most complicated and difficult, for later, thus allowing circumstances to intervene. Regarding the military aspects, the report says that "a strategic defense plan for the islands was not prepared, particularly as regards logistics in the strategic and operational context."

The report also notes the difference in operative capability between the Argentine and British forces, because "this was was waged with our Armed Forces equipped, organized, and trained for a regional conflict only -- not to confront the British Armed Forces, which are organized to wage a modern overseas war."

In the strategic field, the Rattenbach report faults the junta for the notorious conceptual error of believing that islands 600 km off the continental coast could be defended mainly with land forces, in view of the fact that the naval-air forces were technically limited for that task. That defense was bound to succumb soon to the air-naval blockade imposed by the enemy, and this is what happened.

Analyzing flaws in the operational field, the report points to the withdrawal of the fleet to shallow waters after the cruiser "General Belgrano" was sunk by the British nuclear submarine "Conqueror," adding that "this operational decision strongly affected the overall strategy, since it practically ruled out the Argentine fleet defending the Malvinas."

The report charges that the Air Force, "in the operational aspect, did not cooperate as it should have" with the South Atlantic Command "in its requests for assistance to defend the Malvinas." The report also says that the Air Force's lower commands exhibited "a clear reluctance to subordinate themselves to the common good, and a preference for waging the war on their own."

The criticism does not spare the Army, particularly Generals Menendez and Parada. The former is criticized "for adopting deficient organizational, tactical, and logistical measures," and for not having prevented "the hierarchical crisis of command which ensued upon the arrival of the 10th Infantry Brigade commander to replace the 9th Infantry Brigade commander -- thus creating clear discontent among unit commanders of this brigade."

As for the tactical aspect, the report says "the troops should not have been deployed over such a broad defensive position, but reserves should have been kept to counter-attack the enemy as it came within range."

It notes that Menendez should have told Galtieri that the Third Infantry Brigade should not be transferred to East Malvinas Island, "where it could not participate in the defense of Puerto Argentino, as similarly happened when two regiments were moved to other islands."

Menendez is also accused of "in effect staying away from the troops' command," which was then assumed by General Oscar Jofre, and of neglecting "to point out in time and with enough energy both to the junta and the commander in chief that the defense of the islands could not be adequate without sufficient air and naval support, as Menendez did in his report afterward. The report adds that Menendez failed to make it clear that "more troops could not be sent to Soledad Island unless more supplies could be assured for them, especially ammunition and provisions."

After expressing that Menendez "was at first more concerned with the fate of the military government than with the defensive mission of the troops," the report said that was the reason Menendez "did not assume at the beginning the post of high commander of the three forces which operated in the island's small space, but did so rather late."

The report also says that Menendez "could not overcome his friendship and school associations with other generals so that he could issue orders to them with the necessary energy."

It adds that an obvious failure was noted in the behavior of the Third Infantry Brigade commander, General Parada, "who paid little attention to his troops" and who went to Darwin only after receiving a verbal and written order from Menendez. Had General Parada been present at Darwin, where in addition to the 12th Regiment there was a company of the 25th Regiment -- and there were problems with the local population -- the 27-28 May fighting may have had a different outcome."

The Rattenbach Commission also delves into what it calls errors in economic management, especially delays in adopting measures aimed at putting the national economy on a war footing. After saying that Minister Alemann only learned about the Malvinas takeover as an accomplished fact, the report notes that even then the economy minister did not awake to the need for adopting immediate measures to stem the outflow of foreign exchange, the remittance of profits, and the import of nonessential foods.

The report, however, condemns the military junta for not advising Minister Alemann in advance so that he could withdraw Argentine funds deposited in U.S. and British banks and transfer them to a neutral country, thus avoiding their being blocked.

It goes on to add that "the fact that all these measures were so slowly adopted in Argentina contrasts with the energetic and immediate actions taken by Great Britain, which not only blocked Argentine funds deposited in British banks but enlisted the immediate solidarity of the EEC."

After clarifying that the errors in the economic area "did not negatively affect the outcome of the conflict" because of its short duration, the report said that "that those errors nevertheless are making themselves felt in the postwar period, with adverse consequences."

Referring to flaws in psychological actions, the report mentions that the people "were not prepared for the circumstance of the UN Security Council Resolution 502 and other resolutions demanding the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Malvinas," adding that the press acted in an "overly optimistic spirit, thus producing the great letdown the nation suffered on 14 June and following days."

The report also mentions the visit of Argentine and foreign journalists to the Malvinas, asserting that "it clearly avoided the supervision of the Joint Staff." Therefore, "upon the return of those journalists to the mainland, the news was spread to a point in which it could not be restrained, despite the complaints made by the official news agency to the Joint Staff."

The report mentions as "a notorious case of the lack of control over the activities of foreign journalists the presence in Argentina of correspondents of REUTER, an official organization of the British Government, for the duration of the South Atlantic conflict."

Chapter Two, entitled "The Responsible Men," says:

Military junta: The three members of the military junta, General Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, Admiral Jorge Isaac Rojas, and Brigadier General Basilio Lami Dozo, are responsible for the aforementioned errors, namely:

In the foreign policy area, being the representatives of the nation's supreme authority, they were responsible for the conduct of foreign policy.

In the military strategic field, they were responsible for the errors in the conduct of the war.

In the operational aspect, the intervention of the Army commander in chief contributed to the errors pointed out.

In the area of economic action, they prevented the adoption of the most indispensable preventive measures by keeping the planning of the initial operation too secret.

In the area of psychological action, they did not properly prepare the people for the possible withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Malvinas, as demanded by UN Resolution 502 and other subsequent resolutions; they were also responsible for the guidelines for psychological actions because they approved the plan presented to them.

Cabinet members:

Foreign Ministry: Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez was responsible for the errors in the area of foreign policy.

Economy minister: The errors pointed out in the area of economic actions can be attributed to Minister Roberto Alemann.

Other levels:

Chief of the Joint Staff: The errors noted in the area of psychological actions, especially the guidelines and the lack of control over the foreign press, can be attributed to Vice Admiral Leopoldo A. Suarez del Cerro.

Malvinas commander:

In the operational field, there were several errors for which General Mario Benjamin Menendez was responsible.

Commander of the Third Infantry Brigade:

Several mistakes made in this unit are to be blamed on its commander, General Omar Edgardo Parada.

Chapter Three deals with juridical measures which can be applied to both civilian and military personnel.

For military personnel, "the appropriate court, because of the rank of the participants, is the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, which should directly institute proceedings on the basis of the findings of this commission. This is so because many of the errors pointed out in this report lie within the Code of Military Justice under provisions of Chapters V (negligence) and VI (various violations in acts of command, service or missions); under provisions of Title V (violations in service) and Title VI (crimes against military honor).

Problems regarding military honor will include those related to the capitulation on 14 June as they affect the national honor and the honor of the Armed Forces. In these cases, the responsibility of the members of the military junta must also be taken into account."

Civilian personnel:

Civilians who are responsible for errors which have been noted can be charged under provisions of the 18 July 1976 act to analyze the behavior of persons who are responsible for damaging the nation's highest interests.

It should be recalled that the Rattenbach Commission Report can now be submitted to the military junta which, if appropriate, will hand it over to the military court.

More on Commission Report

PY241628 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2237 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Aug (DYN) -- According to military sources, the report on the Malvinas war that was disclosed today by a newspaper is the same preliminary memorandum that General (Retired) Benjamin Rattenbach submitted a couple of months ago to the Army commander.

According to these sources, the memorandum, which was personally drafted by Gen Rattenbach, summarizes some of the conclusions of the complete report that is to be submitted by the military commission. This report has not yet been signed by some of the members of the military commission, since the drafting of the report is still to be completed.

The so-called "Rattenbach Commission" was appointed last year by the military junta. In addition to Gen Rattenbach, the commission is made up of Major General Tomas Sanchez de Bustamante, Admiral Alberto Vago, Admiral Jorge Boffi, General Carlos Rey, and General Francisco Cabrera.

According to persistent rumors that have not been denied, the preliminary report was submitted to General Cristino Nicolaides, who in turn submitted the report to the military junta at the end of June. But the other members of the military junta, Admiral Ruben Franco and General Augusto Hughes, refused to study it since they believe that the military junta should only study the complete conclusions of the military commission.

It was noted some time ago that both the Navy and the Air Force had opposed the position upheld by Gen Rattenbach, who believes that in addition to establishing the political and strategic responsibilities of the war, the military commission should also be in charge of applying the proper punishment.

In fact, the report that was disclosed today proposes that the Armed Forces Supreme Council is the only competent court for trying the military officers who have been charged with such serious offenses.

Among them are the members of the military junta who decided to go to war and who were in command of it. However, the report also notes that the charges raised by the Rattenbach Commission should be used as the basis to undertake a "judicial investigation process of the case."

But General Leopoldo Galtieri, Admiral Jorge Anaya, and General Basilio Lami Dozo have definitely expressed their opposition to this postion, since they said that the statements and conclusions of the Rattenbach Commission are not valid as a legal precedent.

According to sources close to the former members of the military junta, they informed the present Army, Navy, and Air Force commanders about their position, and this was one of the reasons why Galtieri, Anaya, and Lami Dozo took their time in signing their respective declarations before the Rattenbach Commission. The former members of the military junta have also reportedly objected to the enforcement of the military justice code in the trial to establish their political responsibilities during the war.

Commission Disavows Disseminated Report

FY242147 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2050 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Aug (TELAM) -- The members of the Commission for the Analysis and Evaluation of Political, Strategic and Military Responsibilities during the South Atlantic Conflict made it clear this afternoon that the report attributed to it which has been disseminated by various sectors of the media is not reliable.

Here is the text of the communique:

"As regards a report attributed to the Commission for the Analysis and Evaluation of Political, Strategic and Military Responsibilities During the South Atlantic Conflict which was disseminated by the media, the commission's members deem it necessary to make the following clarifications:

"The mentioned report was not drawn up by the commission.

"The commission is about to conclude the job that was entrusted to it. After the document is finished, it will submit it to the military junta expeditiously."

QUORUM MAGAZINE DIRECTOR KELLY KIDNAPPED 24 AUG

PY241217 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1121 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Aug (NA) -- Sources of the magazine QUORUM have asserted that their director, Guillermo Patricio Kelly, was kidnapped this morning on the corner of Republiquetas and Cabildo Streets, in the Nunez neighborhood of this capital.

Guillermo Patricio Kelly's wife confirmed that her husband had been kidnapped this morning on the corner of Cabildo and Republiquetas Streets by three persons "in a Renault Fuego with license plate 1067976 issued in the capital." The kidnappers were carrying rifles and were dressed "in military uniforms."

Kelly Reported Killed

PY241545 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1520 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Aug (NA) -- According to an unconfirmed report obtained from a reliable source, Patricio Kelly's body was found north of this capital shortly before noon today.

Commando Group Claims 'Execution'

PY241620 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1552 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Aug (NA) -- The clandestine commando group Argentina Libre [Free Argentina] has called the newspaper CRONICA and reported that "that swine Kelly" was executed at 1145. It added that "Judge Salvi is next in line."

Military Junta Calls Meeting

PY241751 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1718 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Aug (DYN) -- The Argentine military junta will hold an unscheduled meeting this afternoon to analyze the kidnapping of Patricio Kelly in which, according to several different sources, individuals wearing military uniforms are involved. According to military sources, the commanders of the three Armed Forces decided to meet after making several calls this morning, shortly after the serious incident took place.

Another matter which could have prompted the unexpected meeting of the three commanders is the communique which the Air Force commander issued yesterday. Because of the way it was worded, this communique has been interpreted as harsh criticism of Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe's policy.

Initial Reports on Kidnapping

PY241809 [Editorial report] Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 1304 GMT on 24 August reported on a statement made by Guillermo Patricio Kelly on Radio Argentina just "before he was kidnapped." He said that "Argentina is a prisoner of the mafia and as long as there is no justice restraining the Massera group, the organized mafia, and the Lorenzo Miguel union-political gang, Argentina has no democratic future." Kelly went on to say that "two or three militarymen are responsible for this. Some belong to the Navy, others to the Air Force and the Army, and they support the installation of an apparent democracy serving the interests of the mafia."

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 24 August reported that journalist Carlos Mollard announced today that if Kelly does not appear, he is going to release the names of civilians and members of the Armed Forces who are allegedly involved in the crimes being investigated by Kelly.

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 1424 GMT on 24 August reported that President Reynaldo Bignone expressed indignation over Kelly's kidnapping and that the Federal Police are working to clarify this regrettable incident.

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 1505 GMT on 24 August carried the text of a police communique on Kelly's kidnapping. The communique reported that two police officers saw two people get into Kelly's car as he sat in the driver's seat. When the police officers investigated this incident, a man in an Army uniform with the rank of colonel got out of the car to explain that it was a minor traffic incident. The communique goes on to say that when the officers saw that the man on the driver's seat was calm, they did not intervene and the cars drove away. The communique also reports that two vehicles have been found abandoned and that the police are investigating.

Kelly Reportedly Escapes Kidnappers

PY251155 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0555 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Aug (NA) -- Early this morning, nationalist leader Guillermo Patricio Kelly was able to escape from his kidnappers, after being held for more than 16 hours, by jumping from the automobile carrying him near the Ingeniero Maschwitz neighborhood, about 40 km north of this capital. Kelly showed up around 0015 to 0030 in the Argentine Automobile Club service station shouting "I am Kelly, I am Kelly, call the police and Buenos Aires," an employee of that establishment named Bonina revealed to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS.

Kelly's wife, Irma, said on the telephone from Maschwitz that "Patricio is injured because he jumped from a moving vehicle." According to Kelly's wife, he has abrasions in different parts of his body, particularly on his head. She added, however, that Kelly "is clear headed and can move on his own."

Reliable sources indicated that the kidnappers warned Kelly that "this is only a warning for you to stop your accusations. Otherwise we are going to kill you."

Kelly Sees Police, Returns Home

PY251225 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1213 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Aug (TELAM) -- Guillermo Patricio Kelly, who arrived in his house at 0845 from the 35th Police Precinct, is now giving details of his kidnapping and escape to reporters in front of his house on 3828 Moldes Street in this capital. It should be recalled that Kelly, after he appeared early this morning, was taken to the 35th Police Precinct, where he was interrogated for 3 hours by a judge about his kidnapping.

PAPER DENOUNCES BEAGLE CHANNEL INCIDENTS

PY242243 Paris AFP in Spanish 2056 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 24 Aug (AFP) -- More hostile actions by Chilean vessels against Argentine vessels in the southern area of the Beagle Channel were denounced today in Buenos Aires by a local newspaper. According to the evening newspaper LA RAZON, which cites reliable sources, the incidents took place last Saturday in the neighborhood of Snipe Island when a Chilean torpedo boat closed in on a high-speed Argentine launch, which could have been the "Concepcion del Uruguay," and held it under its guns for a long time. The incident took place 500 meters from Snipe Island. The next day, an Argentine launch, which could have been the "Clorinda," was the object of an attempted collision by a Chilean torpedo boat, which apparently wanted to ground the Argentine vessel in the area of McKinley, the newspaper states.

LA RAZON states that the incidents were direct provocations that can only be explained by the deteriorating internal political situation that is evident in Chile. It seems, the newspaper continues, that the implementation of a permanent strategy regarding external conflict is being sought, which Chilean military chiefs believe will make their fellow countrymen sensitive to the situation.

Moreover, press reports circulating in Buenos Aires have indicated the possibility that there will be more incidents between 8 and 11 September. The sources have indicated that if these incidents do take place, they will serve as a diversionary action for the military governments of the two countries, since a protest march on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of General Augusto Pinochet becoming president is expected in Chile, and Argentina is experiencing a critical time that involves the social, economic and judicial sectors, with only 2 more months to go before general elections.

AIR FORCE DENIES WRITING ELECTION REPORT

PY242200 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1930 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug (NA) -- Today the Air Force denied having prepared a report, released to the public last week, forecasting the victory of Peronism in the 20 October elections, and emphasizing that "its command is not aware" of such a report. At the same time the Air Force emphasized that its hierarchy is established on "strictly military merits" and not on political ideology.

The Air Force said: "If this were not so, the Air Force would have to retire the majority of its members because of their political preferences or affinities, and almost no one would be left in the force." The Air Force added: "Active duty personnel must not be apolitical, but should not support a party."

The Air Force position was explained by General Alberto Simari, Air Force secretary general, to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS. This position was then released by the Air Force Command to the press.

The Air Force has now joined the Army in rejecting any participation in the report -- attributed to state intelligence services -- which, in addition to forecasting a Peronist victory, also warned that any intent to obstruct the country's democratization process will "not be feasible."

Enrique Vanoli, member of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), said that the report was prepared by the Air Force and that it was written by Generals Julio Cesar Santuccione and Simari. In view of this situation Simari emphasized that "it should be recalled that the force's higher echelon and its personnel's length of service are determined on military merit and not on political ideology."

Simari also said that "beyond denying or admitting the writing of the document attributed to the intelligence services, we, as usual, encourage searching for the truth through an investigation."

In this regard he added: "The Air Force reaffirms the position repeatedly expressed by its commander of staying out of the electoral process for democracy." He added: "Reports of this sort are not drawn up by this institution and its command is not aware of such a report.

LA PAZ CITIZENS PROTEST ECONOMIC POLICIES

PY250259 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The city of La Paz was shaken today by demonstrations staged by students, civilian organizations, housewives, and other groups. They were protesting against the economic policies of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) government, which, through recent corrective measures, has deepened the country's economic crisis.

Students of the University of San Andres, UMSA, and of the Simon Bolivar Teachers' College took to the streets and squares in order to reject the bus fare hikes implemented by the UDP government. The UMSA students gathered in front of the Government House gates, where the student leaders criticized the economic corrective measures adopted by the government. The presence of socialist students was quite obvious in this demonstration. They were waving red flags and shouting (?fanatical) slogans.

Several neighborhood committees of La Paz also took to the streets to ask for more bread in the face of the difficult situation the Bolivian people are enduring. They also requested the resignation of the mayor of La Paz City, Benjamin Miguel Harb, on the grounds that he lacks ability, as has been demonstrated during his tenure.

The La Paz Federation of Neighborhood Committees gathered for a massive rally at Government House, where it demanded the removal of the mayor.

BRIEFS

GAS EXPORTS TO ARGENTINA -- According to Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB], Bolivia exported a total of 7,000,744,853 cubic feet of gas, worth $36.9 million, to Argentina during the month of July. [Summary] [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Aug 83 PY]

SPOKESMAN SAYS FIGUEIREDO CONTINUES RECOVERY

PY241353 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Government spokesman Carlos Atila has stated that President Figueiredo is well and that he walks 5 km a day following the instructions of his doctors in Cleveland.

IRANIAN ENVOY VOICES INTEREST IN ARMS PURCHASES

PY242054 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Aug 83 p 8

[Excerpts] In Rio de Janeiro yesterday Shahmard Kanani-Moqaddam, the first ambassador appointed by Iran to serve in Brazil since the Islamic revolution in 1978, admitted that his country is interested in purchasing Brazilian arms, especially tanks. He added that this subject had probably already been discussed with the Brazilian authorities during the visit to Brasilia this week by an Iranian delegation headed by Industry Minister Mostafa Hashemi. The objective of this visit was to increase trade relations between the two countries.

Kanani-Moqaddam confirmed that up to the end of next year Brazil will purchase 60,000 barrels of oil daily from Iran, while his country will import machinery, equipment, and Brazilian "commodities" [given in English]. This will guarantee a two-way trade exchange worth approximately $1 billion.

Excusing himself from expanding on the subject of the purchase of Brazilian arms by Iran, since this does not depend on him, and "since it is a trade agreement on which I have no official information," Ambassador Shahmard Kanani-Moqaddam recalled that since 1978 relations between the two countries have been handled by a charge d'affaires. He now hopes to strengthen relations, which have been established at embassy level.

According to Ambassador Kanani-Moqaddam, Iran intends to continue the war with Iraq until it wins, but does not know how long this will take "because right now it is difficult to determine how long the enemy will continue to receive foreign arms support." He pointed out that 3 weeks ago Iran won several battles, but that Iraq had also bombed some important cities in his country "in a very cruel manner; women, children, and old people were killed."

"These things are regrettable. When the Iranians attack, the Iraqi soldiers cowardly flee from the battlefield and in reprisal attack the civilian population. We do not act the same way because we believe in humanitarian principles and will not violate them. The Iraqi regime is an enemy of Islam and wants to wipe it out, but we will not allow them to do so."

Kanani-Moqaddam admitted that Iran will accept a peace treaty as long as it is rational and contains certain conditions, but he does not think it will be achieved. He pointed out: "We would like Iraq to show a real indication that it wants peace, and one of the main conditions to achieve peace would be for it to indemnify us for the damage caused to our cities. Iraq, which started the war, as can be proven by documents we have, would also have to punish some authorities in its government leadership."

Moqaddam, who is a 30-year-old architect and expert in city planning, voluntarily served on the frontline at the beginning of the war with Iraq in 1980. He had previously served in the Army and Air Force, where he reached the rank of officer. He was a collaborator of the Iranian prime minister when he was appointed ambassador to Brazil.

ITAMARATY IRRITATED BY ENVOY'S NOTE IN PARIS

PY241509 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Ambassador Jose Botafogo Goncalves, adviser to the Planning Secretariat, has distributed an official note in Paris (where he is accompanying Planning Minister Delfim Netto), trying to justify deals with Poland denounced in a number of reports by O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO.

He did not justify or explain anything, but managed to irritate Itamaraty, which responded with another note yesterday. Among other remarks, Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas stated that "as far as lines of credit to Poland are concerned, the Coordinating Group for Trade With the Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe [COLESTE] simply follows the Central Bank's instructions."

Botafogo Goncalves called Ambassador to Poland Meira Penna's activities "scandalous and undisciplined." Itamaraty replied: "Ambassador Botafogo Goncalves has not been granted any powers to deal with possible consequences of the behavior of an Itamaraty official who had retired from diplomatic service and whose reputation has never been in doubt."

BRIEFS

HELICOPTER PURCHASES FROM ISRAEL -- According to the Israeli newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT, in 1982 Brazil purchased eight helicopters which the Israelis sold as surplus. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Aug 83 p 18 PY]

ARMY PERSONNEL TRANSFER -- Yesterday Major General Newton de Oliveira e Cruz assumed both the Planalto Military Command and the 11th Military Region Command. Gen Cruz is replacing General Adhemar da Costa Machado, who will assume the Amazonia Military Command on 14 September. [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Aug 83 p 6 PY]

1983 TRADE BALANCE SURPLUS -- Yesterday Carlos Viacava, director of the Foreign Trade Department [CACEX], disclosed that the Brazilian trade surplus for the first seven months amounted to $3.637,000,000. During the period January-July Brazil exported goods worth $12,280,000,000 while it imported goods worth $8,643,000,000. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 4 Aug 83 p 26 PY]

IRON EXPORTS UP -- Siderbras' [Brazilian Iron and Steel, Inc] exports for January-July 1983 amounted to 1,688,000 metric tons of assorted steel products, worth $381 million. This means that the originally targeted 2 millions tons per year will be surpassed, Siderbras' Chairman Henrique Brandao Cavalcanti reported yesterday. Last year, with better prices for steel products on the international market, Siderbras exported 1.6 million metric tons, worth $412 million. The 1982 balance showed a $300-million deficit, but for this year a $60-million surplus is anticipated. [Excerpts] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Aug 83 p 31 PY]

PINOCHET CELEBRATES 10TH YEAR AS ARMY HEAD

Blames Violence on Opposition

PY241200 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] The president of the republic has harshly blamed some sectors of the opposition for the outbreak of violence in the country. The head of state added that shamefully irresponsible sectors of the opposition have cowardly disclaimed responsibility for the violence, and they have had the nerve to hold the Armed Forces and the security forces responsible for it.

These remarks were included in a speech President Pinochet delivered at the military school, where he was feted on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of his assumption as Army commander in chief.

In his speech, the president reviewed all the goals achieved by the Army and by other sectors in the past 10 years. The head of state later referred to the national situation: [recorded passage indistinct]

He added that Chile is steadily struggling to achieve reactivation. More than ever the country needs its people to unite and coexist peacefully, because it is going through a difficult situation, Pinochet said. The head of state said that some sectors of the opposition and the Marxist aggression are taking advantage of the situation to carry out actions aimed at disrupting order and creating violence. He added that their actions are having regrettable and adverse consequences for the homeland. [recorded passage indistinct]

The head of state forcefully charged that the promoters of (?violent actions) have cowardly disclaimed responsibility for them and have not hesitated to blame them on the Armed Forces. [recorded passage indistinct]

The head of state asserted that the Armed Forces do not represent any sector in particular but rather all the Chilean people. He added that the Armed Forces cannot seal alliances that could be detrimental to specific groups because [words indistinct] the entire country.

The Armed Forces are engaged in defending their own sovereignty, freedom, and peaceful and orderly existence. He made it clear that the Armed Forces, which are above intraparty strife, are interested in the overall improvement of the country and not in the ambitions of any (?particular) group or party.

The president reminded his audience that the present administration has done without political parties because it is based on the large majority of the people, something that has been proven many times. The president also reiterated that the Armed Forces have remained apolitical because of their principles, adding that they are true military professionals.

Receives Congratulations

PY240207 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpts] [monitored in progress] There is unity, and the nation, the Armed Forces and security forces and the citizenry are united. Nothing will divide them, that is, there is no stopping them. The president also stated that the Army has never engaged in politics and has also asked the people to have confidence and faith in the government.

These and other statements were made by the president in response to the messages of congratulations which high-ranking national authorities voiced on the occasion of his 10th anniversary today as commander in chief of the Army.

This morning the president received, in his private residence, the congratulations of the Army's higher echelon headed by Deputy Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Julio Canessa Robert, who expressed unbounded loyalty to his commander in chief. President Pinochet, in turn, stated that he has full confidence in the Army and the Armed Forces, since this loyalty and unity, which appears before the world as an indivisible body, represents one of the best reasons to continue fulfilling any military or government activities.

Later on, at La Moneda Palace where he was saluted by the palace guards, President Pinochet was greeted by the staff of the ministry secretary general of the presidency. Afterward, he was visited by delegations of the Navy, the Chilean Air Force, and the Carabineros.

At 1000 the minister and under secretaries went to O'Higgins Hall in La Moneda Palace where Justice Minister Jaime del Valle, speaking on behalf of the cabinet, voiced their strongest support and loyal cooperation to his excellency, and their confidence that the future of Chile, as a free and sovereign nation spared of any totalitarian threat and thankful for his government, is safe in his hands.

President Pinochet on his part told the ministers and under secretaries that we are now confronted with new challenges. [Begin Pinochet recording] At present we are faced with new challenges in our everyday activities, but we are going to confront them with our best efforts and sacrifices [words indistict] which Chile deserves [words indistinct].

To you Messrs Ministers, to you Messrs Under Secretaries, I voice my entire confidence and support, and request that you continue to work with imagination, with a creative spirit and talent [words indistinct] for the benefit of Chile and its citizens. Thank you very much. [end recording]

Later on, the members of the government junta voiced their congratulations to the chief of state. On this occasion, Fernando Matthei pointed out that at present we once again confront our enemies of the past and their lackeys. He said that we want to convey to you, Mr President, the total and indestructible unity of the Chilean defense and security forces, and the forces of order and support for the Chilean Constitution which [words indistinct] in 1980 and which all of us have promised to observe.

President Pinochet on his part stated that I am deeply honored to receive your congratulations today. This unity of the Armed Forces and the forces of order, this solid and indivisible unity, is the greatest guarantee that the Constitution will be observed, because in addition to the Armed Forces, there are also citizens who support us with the desire that the Constitution be observed and that the guidelines set in 1980 be fulfilled.

The chief of state deeply thanked government junta members for having come to his office to voice their greetings, which he received wholeheartedly and sincerely, stating to each person that when there is unity, with the nation, the Armed Forces and forces of order, and the entire citizenry united, there is no dividing them; that is, there is no stopping them. He pointed out that we are an uncontrollable and overpowering force.

PINOCHET'S SON-IN-LAW INVOLVED IN LAWSUIT

PY241719 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1526 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 24 Aug (EFE) -- Today a warrant was issued prohibiting Julio Ponce Lerou, former general manager of the Production Development Corporation (CORFO) and Chilean President Augusto Pinochet's son-in-law, from leaving the country.

Judge Carlos Botacci accepted the plea made by lawyer Ricardo Claro, former military judge Alfonso Podlech, and journalist Viviana Schneiders against Ponce Lerou who, in turn, accused them of financing and publishing a pamphlet insulting him and his father-in-law, General Pinochet.

The pamphlet, which is circulating in Chile, says that Ponce Lerou has become one of the richest men in Chile in the last 10 years.

Ponce Lerou denied the charge at a press conference, but admitted to business activities, receiving loans for hundreds of thousands of dollars, and purchasing land and cattle alongside his activities as a public official.

During the press conference, Ponce Lerou accused Claro, Podlech, and Viviana Schneiders of being the authors of the pamphlet; they responded with a lawsuit against the former CORFO manager, challenging him to explain the origin of his wealth and to make a public accounting of what he owned 10 years ago and what he now owns.

FINANCE MINISTER ON BRAZIL'S NONPAYMENT OF DEBT

PY242325 Paris AFP in Spanish 1754 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 24 Aug (AFP) -- Chilean Finance Minister Carlos Caceres today said in Santiago that Brazil's decision to unilaterally suspend payment of part of its $90-billion foreign debt should not be followed by the rest of Latin American countries. The possibility of a real economic recovery for Latin American countries lies in a process of an orderly refinancing of their foreign debts, the Chilean minister remarked.

If any of the Latin American countries begins making decisions regarding the international financial crisis on an emotional rather than a rational basis, it could lead all of our countries to extremely serious situations, Caceres added.

Brazil announced on Monday the nonpayment of $2 billion in amortization and interest that it should have made to the central banks of several of the Paris Club members that had granted it loans. Undoubtedly the Brazilian decision is one of extreme urgency, the Chilean minister said.

POLICE ARREST SIX INVOLVED IN VIOLENT INCIDENTS

PY240004 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] The police have arrested several criminals responsible for violent incidents during the so-called peaceful national day of protest that was held on 11 August. They also burned a car parked on Cardinal Caro Avenue, in the Conchali district.

Those arrested have been identified as: (Fernando Alvarado), (Carlos Navarrete), (Manuel Carvajal), (Sergio Perez), (Marcos Fasem), and (Jorge Valderrama).

All of these persons, whose ages range from 21 to 23, were responsible for blackouts and also threw stones at houses and shops in the Conchali area. Their cases are being handled at the 20th Santiago district criminal court.

DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE DEMANDS PINOCHET RESIGNATION

PY231447 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0305 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 22 Aug (EFE) -- With a petition forwarded to Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet to step down from the presidency, the opposition "Democratic Alliance" [AD] today presented the basic guidelines for a great national agreement through dialogue.

The factions that had signed the democratic manifesto propose in a communique the creation of a "Democratic Alliance," the formation of which was announced recently by Gabriel Valdes, former foreign minister during Eduardo Frei's regime. The AD includes the Christian Democratic, the Social Democratic, the Socialist, the Radical and the rightist Republican Parties, and its doors are open to "other democratic groups that would like to join them."

According to the basic principles of AD, "the current government of the republic is unable to find a real solution to the serious and growing problems afflicting the Chilean people today."

Based on an urgent need to overcome the political, social and moral crisis affecting the nation, AD appeals to all Chileans to assume responsibility for returning democracy to Chile in an orderly and peaceful manner.

The AD proposes, first of all, "that the people decide, through a plebiscite, on the creation of a constituent assembly made up of a sufficient number of representatives through a universal suffrage, a secret ballot, and an informed electorate. This constituent assembly would have constituent and legislative powers."

The AD feels that after 10 years of a military regime, "it is imperative that the state's political leadership" change and asks, therefore, for the presence of a person who, having been set apart from all quarrels and conflicts of the recent past, may be able to bring about a consensus and to lead the transitional process."

The manifesto adds that "as in other critical circumstances of our history, the chief of state must provide a solution for the country by resigning from the post of president of the republic."

At this hour of decision, the AD supports the creation of a provisional government to represent the national consensus which, within 18 months, will be able to prepare a political plan in accordance with a number of pre-established objectives.

These objectives would be the reestablishment of the constitutional system and full respect for human rights, democracy and the state of law, with domestic peace and order; starting with an end to the state of emergency, and a reestablishment of the fundamental freedoms of expression, opinion, assembly, and association.

The other basic objectives proposed by AD are the return of all exiles and the dissolution of the National Intelligence Center (political police). And the "preparation and implementation of an emergency economic program that may be able to begin a reactivation process, to end the strikes and to renegotiate the foreign debt."

In its manifesto, AD addresses the Armed Forces and the forces of order. It asks them, "within the framework of their discipline and organization of institutional commands, to consider that the fatherland and its sacred and permanent interests demand from all their members a demonstration of patriotism, which may lead to the much awaited national understanding."

Among those who signed the document are Gabriel Valdes and Patricio Aylwin for the Christian Democratic Party; Hugo Zepeda and Julio Subercaseaux for the rightist Republic Party; Enrique Silva for the Radical Party; Luis Bossay for the Social Democratic Party; and Julio Stuardo for the Socialist Party.

OPPOSITION GROUP ORGANIZES PLAN AGAINST REGIME

PY240043 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] The so-called Democratic Alliance, which groups a number of Chilean political parties, is reportedly trying to obtain foreign support with the objective of exerting pressure on the government headed by President Pinochet.

An AFP report from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, states that leaders of the Chilean Democratic Alliance have started negotiations with several European governments so that they may exert political and economic pressure on Chilean officials.

The AFP report adds that among these pressures are a campaign at the UN level to discredit Pinochet's government, and an effort to influence negotiations for credits with the international banking sector. Details of this foreign plan against Chile were disclosed in Amsterdam by Christian Democratic leader (Pete Duckland) and by Socialist leader (?Dim Mayer).

OPPOSITION GROUP ALLOWED TO HOLD MEETING 4 SEP

PY241852 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] DINACOS, the National Social Communications Agency, has just issued a communique in which it reports that the government has authorized PRODEN [National Development Project] to hold a public meeting.

The following is the text of the communique:

Through the Interior Ministry, the government today authorized PRODEN to hold a public meeting on 4 September at O'Higgins Park. This authorization is included in a letter signed by the interior minister to the so-called PRODEN organization.

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR NATIONAL ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

PA211330 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Aug 83 p 4-a

[Editorial: "Drug Addiction, A Drama"]

[Text] Perhaps more than is really needed is being said about the hallucinatory drug drama, bet very little is being done. Not a day goes by that this delicate subject is not treated as of capital importance by the press or the radio and television, in street gatherings or family conversations. Many Colombian families have been painfully perplexed by the sight of members poisoned by the use of some hallucinogen. It is a slow, but at the same time deadly, process that extends every day with increasing vigor among Colombia's youth, especially in the big cities.

First marijuana and now "Bazuco" (unpurified coca paste mixed with vegetable flours and even -- it is horrible to imagine this -- with brick powder) are the two worst poisons for a people who until recently were healthy and strong, but who are now weakened by drug addiction. And if we mentioned that much is being said but little is being done about this problem, we are right in warning that it is very necessary not only to have suitable and updated laws to fight this serious problem but also to create the means to wage a battle with some chance of success in the face of the spectacular drug escalation. Because drugs can be obtained in cafeterias, social clubs, at the entrances to schools, in elegant neighborhoods, in the downtown area, and above all, in almost all tenement houses, where not consuming drugs is synonymous with being a "square," to use a current expression.

At the state, therefore, must assume the people's defense - in this case, the defense of youth -- in the face of the onslaught of drug addiction. The criminality generated by hallucinogens is also on the rise. The country's future is obviously threatened. Each individual family cannot by any means be left to try to solve its personal problems. Rather, this should become a national campaign at the state level in order to fight what has now become one of the most serious national problems -- drugs.

In writing about this painful subject, the investigation conducted under orders of Attorney General Dr Jimenez Gomez must be praised. The reports concluded yesterday are a truly important contribution to the very necessary information on this subject that must be made available to all Colombians.

BRIEFS

NEW GOVERNOR APPOINTED -- Clemente Franco Galvis has been appointed governor of North Santander in lieu of Luis Raul Rodriguez, who rejected the appointment. Clemente Franco Galvis has just returned from Egypt, where he served as Colombia's ambassador. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 20 Aug 83 p 1 PA]

DEPUTY ENERGY-MINES MINISTER NAMED -- Energy and Mines Minister Carlos Martines Simahan today announced that he has confirmed Margarita Mina de Quevedo in the position of deputy energy and mines minister. [Text] [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Aug 83 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON HURTADO U.S. VISIT

PA241627 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez has stated emphatically in the Chamber of Representatives that President Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea's visit to the United States did not compromise the nation's sovereignty.

[Begin Valencia recording] I firmly and categorically reject insinuations that the president of the republic, during his visit to the United States, somehow compromised the national economy, or part of the national economy, in order to secure a renegotiation of the debt. This matter was not even discussed in New York or Washington. The current national government is honorable, sovereign, and knows how to command respect. It is maintaining the nation's independence and national sovereignty.

Regarding the Central American conflict, I must recall that in connection with the Cancun Declaration signed on 17 July of this year by the presidents of the Contadora Group, President Hurtado promoted and secured in Caracas on 25 July -- on the commemoration of the 200th birthday of the liberator -- the signing by the presidents of Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru of an important document backing and reiterating the Cancun Declaration and supporting the efforts of the four governments toward peace, security, and harmonious and productive coexistence among the sister countries of the Central American region.

The document also urged all parties involved in the Central American crisis to fully and efficiently cooperate, agree on, and implement the commitments envisaged in the Cancun Declaration. [end recording]

BRIEFS

PIPELINE CAPACITY TO INCREASE -- The pumping capacity of the trans-Ecuadorean pipeline will be increased to approximately 60,000 additonal barrels a day through an agreement signed between the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation, CEPE, and the Texaco Petroleum Company, to fix the pumping capacity at 300,000 barrels daily. [Text] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Aug 83 PA]

GOVERNMENT DEPUTY DECRIES LORD AVEBURY'S REMARKS

PY241439 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Aug 83 p 9

[Text] "Lord Avebury's remarks are insolent and out of place. I do not believe that a foreigner who visits the country for a few days can make conclusive and categorical remarks on national laws, such as Law 209, which is still under discussion. I think he should have participated in a meeting with congressmen before returning to his country." This statement was made by Dr Ruben Stanley when referring to remarks made by Lord Avebury, member of the British House of Lords, who was sent by the British Council of Churches to Paraguay to investigate the case of the Paraguayan Data Bank.

Stanley, deputy leader in the Chamber of Deputies, stated that when he learned about the presence in our capital of Lord Avebury, he contacted British Ambassador Derrick Mellor to seek a meeting with the visitor. "I wanted Lord Avebury to meet with government and opposition members of congress to exchange ideas concerning the real situation, but he left on Sunday with no previous notice," Stanley stated.

"We government members wanted to hear his opinions, but well-founded opinions, not just the grandiloquent remarks which are absolutely groundless and meant only to promote the person who said them. A foreigner who remains in the country for a few days cannot study in depth the national laws, especially Law 209, which is still a subject of discussion among Paraguayans," Stanley stated. "Lord Avebury's remarks were insolent and made hastily, because without knowing much about the subject, he risked some rash prognostications and groundless opinions," the government deputy added. "The position assumed by Lord Avebury is strictly interference in domestic affairs of a sovereign nation such as Paraguay," Stanley stated.

"I regret the fact that he departed without meeting Paraguayan congressmen, because he himself is a legislator. It is a real shame, because perhaps he could teach us something, although I doubt that," Stanley stated.

Stanley also stated that "Lord Avebury was treated with courtesy in our country, and he was not even able to at least return that courtesy."

"We categorically reject the remarks made by Lord Avebury without any knowledge of our national situation; by staying only a few days in our country, he cannot learn everything about the process our nation is undergoing," the deputy leader in the Chamber of Deputies concluded.

BRIEFS

GREEK AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- Mr Alexios Zakythinos, the new Greek ambassador to Paraguay, presented his credentials to President Alfredo Stroessner during a protocol ceremony held at the Lopez Palace on 9 August. [Excerpt] [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 10 Aug 83 p 11 PY]

EDUCATION, LABOR MINISTERS SWORN IN 16 AUG

PY241332 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Aug 83 p 1

[Excerpt] In a 5-minute ceremony, President Fernando Belaunde Terry has sworn in the new education and labor ministers, Patricio Ricketts Rey de Castro and Joaquin Leguia Galvez, respectively.

The ceremony was held at noon yesterday in the Government Palace's Golden Hall, in the presence of ministers, presidents of the legislative and congressional branches, and government authorities, as well as people in general and relatives of the new ministers.

COURTS, NOT GOVERNMENT, TO PROSECUTE MEDIA

PY242240 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Senator Javier Alva Orlandini has explained that the government will not prosecute those sectors of the media that support subversion since this is a task of the public prosecutor, who should submit the corresponding charges to the courts.

[Begin recording] [Orlandini] This is not exactly what Interior Minister Percovich said. He said that several sectors of the media are exaggerating reports from the interior regarding terrorist activities, which is quite true, and to a great extent this is (?a way of committing) crimes. These sectors of the media even [words indistinct] the penal code. The government is not going to prosecute the media because this is a task for the public prosecutor who, as a consequence, is responsible for submitting the charges to the court.

[Question] [words indistinct] violating the freedom of expression?

[Orlandini] By no means. Freedom of expression is neither absolute nor unrestricted. The Constitution states that the freedoms of information, expression, and opinion are exercised in keeping with the law and that crimes which are committed through the media, even books, are provided for in the penal code and judged by the competent authorities. Therefore, the Constitution itself clearly indicates that the media can also commit crimes. [end recording]

SUBVERSIVES BRIEFLY TAKE OVER TOWN, KILL ONE

PY242324 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 11 Aug 83 p 5

[By Cesar V. Gonzalez Grados]

[Excerpts] Huancavelica -- Fifteen armed and hooded subversives took over the town of Conaica, 70 km from Huancavelica, for 1 hour. After forcing all of the town's authorities to resign their posts, the subversives held a "kangaroo court" and murdered businessman Octavio Ortega Cuicapuzac. The takeover occurred last Monday night, and the outrageous attack was reported today by Antonio Guillen Huayllas, a son-in-law of the slain businessman. In turn, the Civil Guard has commissioned two armed patrols to restore order and pacify the district.

After the murder was committed, the subversives stole the victim's goods and then distributed staples and clothing among those present at the time.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES NATIONAL ISSUES

PY232004 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The government has just urged all citizens not to participate in any demonstrations. (Homero Fernandes) reports from the Interior Ministry.

During a press conference held a few minutes ago, Interior Minister Hugo Linares Brum noted that the government urges all citizens not to participate in any activities aimed at creating disorders.

General Hugo Linares Brum warned about a clandestine campaign to stir up public opinion. He also briefly discussed the recent meeting that the president held with Uruguayan bishops. He noted that during the meeting, the Uruguayan bishops pointed out that SERPAJ, Peace and Justice Service, is not an organization sponsored by the Catholic Church. He said that the report issued today by the Maldonado and Punta del Este Diocese confirms this. The interior minister noted that SERPAJ is an illegal organization which handles printed matter that is not in keeping with the law. He added that one of the priests who is fasting has been identified as Adhemar Olivera, a former member of the National Liberation Movement, who was indicted and sentenced in 1972 on charges of treason against the fatherland. The interior minister said that SERPAJ is supported from abroad and that Argentine Nobel Prize Winner Perez Esquivel was not allowed to enter the country because Uruguayans should solve their own problems.

[Begin Linares recording] [During the meeting with the president] the bishops discussed several issues, but today I will only refer to two of them. They first discussed solutions leading to the resumption of the political dialogue, which is supported by the government.

On this occasion, the bishops pointed out that the so-called Peace and Justice Group, SERPAJ, is not supported by the Catholic Church.

This illegal organization operates with resources received from abroad. It is supported by the well-known Amnesty International, which has clear Marxist-Leninist leanings and which has always attacked our country. SERPAJ is led by Argentine citizen Perez Esquivel, who recently was not allowed to enter our country since we believe -- and we reassert this -- that Uruguayan problems should be solved by Uruguyan citizens. We do not need to request the aid of our good neighbors to solve our own problems.

But the objective of the fasts, meditations, and some much-publicized demonstrations -- such as blackouts and the like, which, fortunately, very few people support -- that are promoted by SERPAJ is to confuse the people. The objective of all this is to create disorder, to destabilize our country, and to alter the enviable peace that our country enjoys.

The government is keenly aware of the needs of the people. We are aware of the needs of our people and we are desperately seeking solutions to these problems. We have already solved some of the, and we shall continue to solve them.

We must be optimistic. We should not listen to the sirens' songs or listen to those who are supported by organizations that do not want good for our country, organizations that strive to create social, economic, and political chaos. But this is something that the armed forces government will not tolerate.

I am optimistic that we will be able to hold the political dialogue, since many political, social, and even religious circles have expressed their support of this. I believe that the political dialogue will be held in a peaceful atmosphere, but if we exert pressure, if we hold demonstrations, and if we start calling each other names, we will not be able to arrive at the correct solutions. Therefore, the government urges all the people not to support stands that are not in keeping with our traditions. [end recording]

Further on Linares Remarks

PY250324 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1939 GMT 23 Aug 83

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 23 Aug (EFE) -- The Uruguayan military regime today charged that the "Amnesty International" human rights organization is being infiltrated by Marxism-Leninism and is financing the movement which is organizing the protest for 25 August. Interior Minister General Hugo Linares Brum has said that "Amnesty" is supplying funds to the "Peace and Justice" movement, led by the Argentine Nobel Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

"Peace and Justice" has called for a protest day for 25 August, which is Uruguay's Independence Day. This protest will be carried out by turning out lights and staying indoors between 1700 and 1900, and to write letters addressed to the president complaining about the state of the nation. As an introduction to the protest day, a group of clergymen, comprised of two Catholic priests and a Methodist minister, are holding a hunger strike at the movement's offices. This hunger strike is now in its 13th day. In the meantime, the "de facto" Urguayan regime has ordered that the hunger strikers be isolated. They may only be visited by doctors, who subject them to daily medical checks.

The interior minister stated during a press conference today that this movement does not belong to the Catholic Church, although there are two priests among the hunger strikers. The interior minister also stressed that the "Peace and Justice" Movement is illegal, as it does not conform to the regulations that rule civilian associations. This movement is distributing "underground" periodicals, thereby violating the country's laws. The minister of the "de facto" Uruguayan Government also said that behind the fasting and meditation facade called for by the movement is the intention to stir up "noisy demonstrations" in order to confuse the people. Linares said that all organizations of this kind seek to "destabilize the atmosphere of peace and security that prevails in Uruguay, which is enviable in view of what is happening in the rest of the world."

The regime's reaction came at a time when calls for a protest day are being circulated secretly. The government called upon the people to reject these practices, "which are not akin to our way of being," and dubbed as subversives the organizers, who are also acting in line with movements from abroad.

Among the hunger strikers is Methodist minister Adhemar Olivera, who was prosecuted in 1972 by the criminal courts. This happened 1 year before the military coup, and Olivera was charged with being a member of the Tupamaros National Liberation Movement. According to Minister Linares Brum, the Methodist minister stated that he was taking part in the movement in order to "destroy the country's structures, through revolution and armed struggle."

NEW ZEALAND'S MACINTYRE SIGNS AGREEMENT, DEPARTS

FL242210 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1950 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister Duncan MacIntyre left for his country today following a 5-day visit to Mexico during which he signed a bilateral science and technology cooperation agreement.

The agreement was signed for Mexico by Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, secretary of foreign relations. It established cooperation regarding the standard of living and economic well-being of the populations of the two countries.

The agreement also noted that each country, complying with its laws, will take the necessary steps to facilitate entry and exit of equipment and material to be used in cooperation activities.

The agreement will take effect in 30 days. The two countries will establish a joint consultative commission to meet every 2 years to ensure compliance with the agreement and propose programs.

MacIntyre, who is also New Zealand's minister of agriculture and minister of fisheries, attended the opening of his country's embassy in Mexico, where he expressed interest in further strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation which prevail between his country and the people and Government of Mexico.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY HEAD DISCUSSES POLITICAL REFORM

PA231403 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 20 Aug 83 pp 1, 15

[Report on interview with Gumersindo Magana, president of the Mexican Democratic Party, by Bertha Hernandez; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Gumersindo Magana, leader of the Mexican Democratic Party, has stated that a lack of values has brought about the present economic and political crisis, because no ethical standard for political and administrative activities has existed for many years. Machiavellianism and cynicism have governed us since 1929.

This lack of ethics in the country has created an unscrupulous society. Logically, influence gained through wealth and power was being sought, and still is.

The Mexican Democratic Party leader is swarthy, robust, short, and glib. His party is proud of the municipal victories recently attained in four localities, including the capital of Guanajuato State.

Many businessmen have traditionally supported the official party, and the party has leaned on them. Today they try to play other parties against the system, just as with the National Action Party.

This is the frame of mind among Mexicans, alien to all ideological principles and tending toward material and economic interests from the individual or the group point of view.

The main topic of the interview was the continuation of political reform, or what is called "integral democratization," in this 6-year period.

Magana stated that the political reform was good and achieved its goals at the right moment, at least with regard to the inclusion of new political organizations, registered and already able to participate in electoral activities. But this reform has been exhausted. What matters now is to achieve the nation's integral democratization through the establishment and reformation of the mechanisms that allow for such an objective. We believe that there are several aspects that must be taken into consideration in the future:

1. Democratization in Mexico City so that a governor and delegates can be elected through a secret, direct, and universal vote, and that Mexico City's congress be organized so that this region's citizens have legislative powers.

2. Opening the Senate to all factions. For this, the Constitution must be amended so that the Senate is organized in a pluralistic form and in proportion to the power of the political parties.

3. We believe that the mixed system for electing Mexico City's deputies is inadequate. We advocate that all deputies be elected according to the principle of proportional representation, thus eliminating the simple majority system. The interviewee explained that in the simple majority system, the candidate who receives a majority of votes in his district becomes a deputy. By contrast, in the proportional representation system each party has a number of deputies in accordance with the proportion of votes they receive. In this manner, all deputies represent the party and not only their district's citizens.

4. Another important aspect is the need to work for the unification of the states' legislation in electoral matters, since there are some that have closed their doors to the possibility of pluralism in local congresses, thus establishing a minimum number of minority deputies.

5. A fundamental aspect of the county's democratization, independent of the legal amendments, is the leaders' political will, since at state and municipal levels bossism hampers respect for the people's will. Undoubtedly, this represents a hurdle for the country's advancement and for the objective of integral democratization.

We believe there has been progress in democratization during this 6-year period, although not in the way of the magnitude we would have liked. Some of our electoral victories have been respected: two in Guanajuato State, two in Jalisco, and one in Tlaxcala. The interviewee regrets, however, that the party was robbed of victories in seven municipalities in Jalisco State. Gumersindo Magana asserts that the people have lost confidence, but that confidence could be recovered if those victories were respected. The return of these people's confidence would ultimately benefit all Mexicans, because we would be able to decide, through the electoral process, how we want to be governed and by whom.

BRIEFS

PRESENTATION OF CASTRO BOOK -- Fernando Lopez Muino, the Cuban ambassador to Mexico, made a formal presentation of a thesis by Fidel Castro entitled "The World Economic and Social Crisis," which has been published by the Mexican Siglo XXI Publishing House. The book was presented to the public at the main auditorium of the National Autonomous University of Mexico's School of Economics, and is reportedly on the stands of all major bookstores in Mexico City. [Summary] [Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 20 Aug 83 p 8 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO BAHAMAS APPOINTED -- Mexico City, 17 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado today appointed career diplomat Federico Urruchua Durand ambassador to the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, with headquarters in Kingston, Jamaica. [Summary] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0345 GMT 18 Aug 83 FL]

PARTY REVIVED -- The revival of the Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution, PARM, was announced yesterday at an event during which members of the party's new board of directors were elected. After criticizing the former leaders of PARM, officials of the past government administration, and the press for costing the party its legal registration, the speakers at the event said they would work for PARM's registration as a party. The leaders include Eugenio Soto Sanchez, Mario Guerra Leal, Manuel Campos Posadas, Juan Manuel Lucia, Adolfo Kunz Bolanos, and Fortino Alejandro Garza. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Aug 83 p 16-A PA]

NATURAL GAS EXPLOITATION -- Mexican Petroleum [PEMEX] is building facilities valued at more than 15 billion pesos to take full advantage of natural gas and support the basic petrochemical industry, which is 85-percent dependent on gas, according to PEMEX Director Mario Ramon Beteta. Some 600 million cubic feet of gas are now being burned daily. Disbursements for the program, aimed at utilization of gas in the Campeche Bay and the petrochemical complex southeast of Villahermosa, already amount to 18.38 billion pesos. An additional 5.85 billion pesos must still be provided to complete the project. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Aug 83 pp 4A, 28A PA]

FURTHER REPORT, VIEW ON PAREDES CANDIDACY

Five Parties Support Candidacy

PA242130 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2105 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] The leaders of five political parties this afternoon announced that they approve of retired General Ruben Dario Paredes' presidential candidacy, because it could help achieve national unity and bring together the necessary elements to successfully solve the country's problems. Following a long meeting held in Las Cumbres, the leaders of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD; Popular Broad Front, FRAMPO; Labor Party, PALA; Liberal Party; and Republican Party issued a communique stating that, in the face of the elections to be held in May 1984, they agree on the task, which cannot be postponed, of joining efforts in an attempt to consolidate national unity and make democratic electoral action the pillar of unity of all Panamanians.

Columnist Rejects Candidacy

PA242315 Panama City YA in Spanish 24 Aug 83 pp 14, 23

["Gateway of Speech" column by Gonzalo Menendez Franco: "A Forgetful General"]

[Text] The retired general -- whose use of the 50th Street office is one of the privileges the Electoral Tribunal has to stop -- has stated on two television stations that he will be launched from a ramp of multiple parties in unity, to sacrifice himself in the presidency.

The motives behind this surface-to-air missile launch that will seat him in the presidential palace can be explained by the fact that he will start a war on hunger and corruption, which requires a person well versed in military arts -- a military Saint Gabriel with a flaming sword, a symbol of human justice on the desolate Panamanian isthmus.

What surprises the unprepared television viewer, when cameras and audio are focused on Paredes' statements on this subject, is that the retired general's loss of memory is so great that it makes him speak as if he were in the opposition, raising the flags of popular protest that he, as a leader, a member of the cabinet, in the public office of greatest civilian importance -- the agro-industrial area -- and in the military bastion of the National Guard leadership, failed to heed.

Paredes' management of the Agricultural Development Ministry was a disaster as far as experts are concerned. Improvisation and chaos in the sector led to monumental investments whose failure is shameful and weighs economically on the taxpayer's shoulders.

During his ministerial administration, "nangarism" [local communists] sought, with wire cutters and self-protection, to demolish the age-old pattern of field work leading a process of collectivizing the Panamanian agricultural sector that resulted in a decline in production and output, which in simple words means hunger.

During his ministerial mandate, Panama's productive and social structures were damaged, while he nourished the tertiary sector, in direct contradiction to our agrarian life. This, like a huge urban magnet, left the countryside without population and raised the cost of living.

During his military command the investigation of mismanagement in public institutions was blocked, with vicious embezzlers being accorded liberty and pats on the back and being praised and applauded as heroes by flatterers and hypocrites.

During his military mandate, a gun was put to the head of the top-ranking official of the Justice Department, forcing him to resign, to prevent the investigation from extending to the higher spheres of the presidential palace -- to which the evidence and proof that he had compiled were pointing.

During his military mandate, a local opposition newspaper was attacked three times by accomplices recruited from the official hordes, who calmly and shamelessly move about, free of responsibilities, in an affront to the citizenry.

During his military mandate, Supreme Court magistrates were insulted, abused, and attacked by unstable members of the impudent left, and the people witnessed the inability to arrest them, despite orders that had been given, while he sat in the cabinet meetings as an equal with national officials to discuss a strike.

The loss of memory shown by the aspiring general must be corrected by the sincere and patriotic people, who know that such a military person, even decked out in angelical wings, will always bear the stigma of Torrijist continuism -- of which he is proud -- which is the essence of the chaos, corruption, and a fetid miasma that subdues and oppresses the Panamanian people.

The general will not pass.

ESQUIVEL TO BE LEFTIST PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA250250 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Aug 83 p 1

[Article by Jose Montero]

[Excerpts] The presidential candidacy of Dr Jose Renan Esquivel, representing a coalition of leftist parties, was confirmed to LA PRESNA by Esquivel himself, when asked about rumors circulating within various political groups and trade unions concerning his possible candidacy.

Esquivel -- who is director of the Children's Hospital -- admitted that representatives of political parties have offered to back him as a presidential candidate.

Esquivel added that "the proposal has come from several doctors and other professional groups who have visited me on various occasions." During his short time a Social Security director, Esquivel "uncovered the millionaire scandal" in the Collective Housing Program, which still remains unresolved.

Esquivel added that "in analyzing the history of our country and other Latin American countries, we realize that the religious, military, and civilian powers have been the basic elements in our lives. Therefore, if one of these powers become weak, the equilibrium is broken, and this is why we are now worried about the dismantling of civil power."

Each time this equilibrium has been broken, there has been repression, suffering, and many problems, which makes it necessary to seek a collective solution. In Panama today the religious and military powers are well defined, but we cannot say the same about the civil power, Esquivel noted, adding that it is manipulated through various means, which is a matter of concern for those of us with an eye on the future.

EL SALVADOR

STONE TO MEET FMLN-FDR LEADERS IN COSTA RICA

PA250156 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] A meeting will be held next week in Costa Rica between U.S. special Envoy Richard Stone and Salvadoran rebels to negotiate the internal pacification of El Salvador.

A source linked to Salvadoran opposition groups has asserted that Richard Stone and high-level leaders of the FMLN-FDR will arrive in Costa Rica next week.

During Stone's last visit to Central America, he met with Ruben Zamora in Bogota and left the door open for future contacts with other leaders.

According to a source close to the rebels, the meeting has been arranged, and will probably take place in Costa Rica next week.

HAVANA QUOTES ZAMORA ON FRG AID TO REGIME

PA242320 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Ruben Zamora, acting in his capacity as representative of El Salvador's FMLN-FDR, has made the first official contact in Bonn between those groups and the Government of the FRG. Zamora met with (Folkmar Quehler), secretary of state in the Ministry of Economic Cooperation, who discussed the plans his country has made for aid to the Salvadoran regime.

The representative of the Salvadoran patriotic forces warned that the money of FRG taxpayers is being wasted with this aid, due to the corruption that prevails among officials of Alvaro Magana's government team. Ruben Zamora reiterated the willingness of the FMLN-FDR to hold talks with the United States, as well as the Salvadoran insurgents' support for the peace efforts of the Contadora Group.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY APPROVES DEATH PENALTY

PA250115 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Aug 83 p 2

[Excerpt] Following two lengthy sessions in which the Constituent Assembly argued back and forth on whether to approve the amendment proposed by Deputy Genaro Pastore, Article 27 -- which deals with the death penalty in its first paragraph -- was left unaltered.

The text of Article 27 reads as follows:

"The death penalty will be applicable only in those cases prescribed by military laws during a state of international war.

"Imprisonment for debt, life sentences, shameful or prescriptive punishment, and all forms of torture are hereby prohibited.

"The state will organize the prisons in order to redeem criminals, educate them, and teach them work habits, aiming at their rehabilitation and the prevention of crime."

GUERRILLAS SABOTAGE POWER LINES; CLASH NEAR CAPITAL

FL241338 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] FMLN forces have destroyed electric power lines, totally or partially interrupting the supply of power to six Salvadoran departments. Salvadoran radio stations, citing military sources, stated that the destruction of high-voltage electrical pylons affected the departments of La Union, San Miguel, Morazan, Usulutan, La Paz, and Chalatenango.

The rebels attacked a military headquarters unit located in San Pedro Perulapan, about 20 km northeast of San Salvador, and penetrated Ciudad Delgado, near the capital, where they fought against government troops.

REBELS RELEASE ONE KIDNAPPED MAYOR, HOLD ANOTHER

PA242110 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2031 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- Military and civilian officials reported today that Salvadoran leftist guerrillas released a mayor they had kidnapped 4 days ago in a small village in the north of the country.

A guerrilla group yesterday (22 August) released Jose Perfidio Calles, 50, at his home in La Laguna, 80 km north of the capital. Officials said he was in good health. Perfidio Calles is a member of the ultrarightist Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA).

Rebels are still holding another mayor, Jose Ovidio Fuentes, 56, who was kidnapped in the same zone of Chalatenango Department the day after Calles' kidnapping.

According to military sources, rebels blew up two electrical towers in Chalatenango last night, continuing a sabotage campaign aimed at the country's electrical infrastructure.

GUATEMALA

MEMBERS OF NEW MEJIA CABINET LISTED

PA241524 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1157 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 24 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the new Guatemalan head of state, has made new changes in the cabinet following the coup that he lead 2 weeks ago.

The new cabinet is as follows:

Minister of Defense	General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores
Minister of Foreign Relations	Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran
Minister of Finance	Leonardo Figueroa Villate
Minister of Communications and Public Works	Luis Hugo Solares
Minister of Education	Eugenia Isabel Tejada de Putzeys
Minister of Agriculture	Ivan Najera Rios
Minister of Public Health and Social Welfare	Jorge Rivera Alvarez
Minister of Economy	Arturo Padilla Lira
Minister of Labor	Otto Palma Figueroa

GOVERNMENT, PARTIES AGREE ON ELECTION DATE

PA242330 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Excerpt] General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, the Guatemalan head of state, and the secretaries general of the political parties and committees in the process of registration today agreed to ratify the date of the elections agreed upon during the Efrain Rios Montt regime and not to move it forward.

The political leaders gathered this morning at the Presidential Palace to hold their first meeting with Mejia Victores since he became head of state on 8 August. The meeting lasted approximately 4 and 1/2 hours, and all present agreed that it would not be advantageous to advance the elections for the constituent assembly, currently scheduled for July 1984. The call for elections will be made on 23 March 1984. Mejia Victores and the political leaders also discussed other subjects during this meeting.

FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS TOUR, REPORTS RESULTS

PA242235 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1854 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today described as "satisfactory" the short tour he made over the past 2 days to El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.

Andrade held a press conference this morning in which he described the results of the visits he paid to the four Central American countries and of his talks with the Salvadoran president and foreign minister, as well as his meeting with the foreign ministers of Nicaragua, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

The minister said that his counterparts in the area "wish to find formulas to achieve detente in Central America."

Andrade added that the basic purpose of his short trip through the region was to become personally acquainted with his counterparts in the area and to hold talks prior to the meeting that will soon take place between the foreign ministers of the Central American nations and those of the Contadora Group. According to Minister Andrade, the meeting will convene in Panama on 7 September.

Regarding the possibility of finding a solution to the problems of Central America in the near future, the Guatemalan foreign minister said there is "good reason to be hopeful," and mentioned the flexibility which the Sandinists have demonstrated in the past weeks.

Andrade stressed that he asked Sandinist Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto that the Nicaraguan official and the progovernment press "not aggravate the tense climate in Central America."

He also reaffirmed Guatemala's stance regarding the Contadora Group, pointing out that Guatemala supports the group's efforts, although he repeated that "we Central Americans will solve Central American problems."

Andrade concluded by noting that his government does not intend to offer its territory for U.S. military bases.

MEJIA DENIES GOVERNMENT TO NEGOTIATE WITH REBELS

PA242130 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1905 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores today denied that his government is planning to negotiate with the guerrillas, as the press has reported.

According to reports disseminated a week ago in the FRG by Radio Deutsche Welle and published here by local papers, the Guatemalan Government had decided to negotiate with the rebels.

Asked about this today, the president said: "How can I negotiate with them (the guerrillas) if we are fighting them, and if to negotiate is to lose?" He also denied other foreign reports that the Army is persecuting thousands of peasants in the interior.

Mejia confirmed the electoral timetable proposed by his predecessor, General Efrain Rios Montt, for the formation of a constituent assembly (1 July), and added that the current cedulas will continue to be valid and will be used to vote.

Concerning the whereabouts of ousted President Rios Montt, Mejia Victores said that he is "living quietly at home."

He also announced that new changes will be made in the public administration, but refused to disclose them.

Concerning the controversial value added tax, Mejia Victores said that it remains in effect, but that a study is currently being conducted on the feasibility of reducing it from 10 percent. According to sources close to the government palace, it could be reduced to as low as 8 percent.

REBELS, PEASANTS CONTINUE TO REQUEST AMNESTY

PA242255 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Former members of subversive groups have turned themselves in at military bases in the interior, and the amnesty for subversives is still in effect.

A bulletin from the Armed Forces Department for Press and Information has reported that several former members of armed groups have sought Army protection and requested amnesty. The amnesty ordered by the government remains in effect.

It has been reported that an armed man surrendered his weapon, ammunition, and personal military equipment to the military detachment in Nebaj, El Quiche Department. Five more rebels turned themselves in at the 13th military detachment, located in Mazatenango, and said that they decided to surrender when they heard the amnesty was still in effect.

Military sources have reported that on 21 August, 13 peasants who had participated in subversive activities turned themselves in at a military post in Uspantan, El Quiche Department. An additional 54 peasants turned themselves in at the military detachment in Nebaj, El Quiche Department, after being held captive by unidentified suversive groups. It was also noted that on Monday of this week, 22 more peasants who had been taken from their communities turned themselves in to the military detachment at Las Majadas, in Huehuetenango jurisdiction, and requested amnesty from the commanding officer at that military center.

CLANDESTINE PARTY DISCUSSES COUP'S CAUSE, EFFECT

PA250210 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0058 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The clandestine Democratic Socialist Party (PSD) today indicated that democracy will be achieved in Guatemala only if "deep economic and social reforms" are implemented in the country.

A communique released in this capital by the PSD includes an analysis of the political situation in Guatemala and Central America and an examination of the causes of the coup that resulted in the overthrow of President Efrain Rios Montt on 8 August.

For the Socialist Party, that coup did not represent an advance in the democratization process in Guatemala, but rather "was aimed at stopping the deterioration of the traditional sectors' hegemony."

The party added that the elimination of the special courts, which had sentenced 15 people to death, and the cancellation of the state of alarm are attempts to confuse the public so that the new government will appear to have a "democratic halo."

The Socialists indicated that "the true nature of the government has started to become apparent, in light of its lack of concern for human rights in Guatemala, its total identification with the policy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, its stance regarding the massacre that occurred at the Spanish Embassy in 1980, and its clear-cut rejection of any efforts to implement economic and social change, such as the agrarian reform." According to the PSD, "a regime of terror and unease for the population" still prevails in Guatemala.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA ON AREA CRISIS, NICARAGUAN 'DANGER'

PA250225 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2125 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica said today that he fears "Nicaragua's intransigence will make the peace efforts of the Contadora Group fail."

Paz Barnica added that his country supports the efforts being made by the group -- which includes Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela -- "because their viewpoints are shared by Honduras." According to the Honduran foreign secretary, their views on disarmament, conciliation with the parties that include armed groups, and the withdrawal of foreign military advisers are their main points of agreement.

In a statement to foreign journalists, the Honduran official insisted that his country is peaceloving and respects the international right to self-determination of peoples and nonintervention in the internal affairs of neighboring states. He based his justification of this position on the fact that Honduras has a government "which is amply supported by the people," democratically elected, and advocates the use of dialogue to solve international controversies.

Paz Barnica accused Nicaragua of being "warmongering" and thus representing "a danger" to the other nations of Central America, which do not wish to engage in the rash arms buildup that promotes subversion.

The foreign secretary explained that Nicaraguan leaders base their intransigence on a propaganda campaign "in which they are trying at all costs to distort the image of Honduras." He pointed out that the campaign rests upon accusations that the Honduran Government and Armed Forces "support forces in Nicaragua which oppose the Nicaraguan regime and are fighting on Nicaraguan territory."

"My country does not support or encourage the anti-Sandinist forces. Our border with Nicaragua is 800 km long, and it is impossible for our Army -- barely 17,000 men -- to efficiently control it," he added.

He also stated that "if Nicaragua has the 17,000 advisors -- from Cuba and other nations -- withdrawn from its territory, we will have our 150 U.S. advisers withdrawn."

Paz Barnica confirmed that his country is carrying out joint maneuvers with the United States, "exercising our right to militarily prepare ourselves to defend the country against possible foreign aggression." He said that the maneuvers "do not represent a threat to the rest of Central America, because Hondurans do not allow our country to be used for acts of international aggression," but added that "they are intended to discourage the enemies of Honduras, who might sooner or later launch an attack."

U.S., HONDURAN OFFICERS DISCUSS MANEUVERS

PA231542 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Aug 83 p 5

[Text] Palmerola, Comayagua -- The Honduran Armed Forces High Command met here last Saturday with the commander in chief and officers of the U.S. forces participating in the U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers known as "Big Pine II."

The purpose of the meeting was to prepare for the implementation of the agenda for the maneuvers, which will last 6 months, with the ultimate goal of preparing the Honduran Army to respond in the event of a foreign invasion.

The first meeting, which lasted 2 hours, was held between Honduran and U.S. officers and Colonel Arnold Schlossberg, commander in chief of the operation. Following this meeting, the chiefs of staff of the Honduran Air Force, Navy, Army, and police met with their U.S. counterparts to review their roles in the maneuvers. These meetings lasted until 1600.

Colonel Jose Abdenego Bueso Rosa, the Honduran chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, represented General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez at the meetings. Also present were Colonels Walter Lopez, Efrain Gonzalez, and others.

In addition to the military exercises, the implementation of military programs that are to be conducted by the U.S. Army in our country was also discussed. These will benefit isolated areas and regions which have thus far received very little attention. To this end, the 41st U.S. Army Hospital, currently located in Fort Carlson, will be relocated to Palmerola. The hospital has a staff of more than 60 doctors and provides all the necessary services for military personnel and civilians. The director of the hospital is Dr Rass Zachut, a cardiologist specializing in open-heart surgery.

An engineering battalion consisting of 900 infantrymen will also come from the United States to carry out social projects that include road construction and the drilling of wells in rural areas.

The Americans based in Palmerola do not depend on Honduran communications facilities to send national and international messages. They have 40 satellite channels at their disposal that can be used for communications, even with places like San Lorenzo.

The presence of Americans in Comayagua has brought new life to the region. During their first weekend here, the influx of dollars into the entire area was very well received by the residents.

MIXED COMMISSION DISCUSSES BORDER DISPUTE

PA241341 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Aug 83 p 4

[Excerpt] The mixed Honduran-Salvadoran border commission continued its negotiations in Tegucigalpa yesterday in an effort to settle the border dispute.

The commission will continue its monthly round of negotiations today. Rodolfo Rosales Abella (president of the Honduran commission) and Alejandro Gomez Vides, (Salvadoran deputy foreign minister) are presiding over the meetings.

Judging by the statements of the two government officials, no solutions to the border dispute are expected in the near future. Rosales Abella even mentioned the possibility of taking the matter before the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

Rosales Abella noted that the meeting "was held as scheduled" in an attempt to reach agreement on the border demarcation.

Replying to persistent questions from journalists, he said: "We cannot talk about percentages" when referring to advances made in the negotiations. He also said that it is not possible to put forth a date for the solution of the conflict. "Time is a variable factor, dependent on the goodwill of the two governments," he stressed.

Rosales Abella was clear in stating: "I will not encourage false hopes by saying that I am optimistic about not going to The Hague." He emphasized that the International Court of Justice "is a possibility we could resort to," it is an institution "that guarantees a final solution in the long run."

Rosales Abella added that the Honduran and the Salvadoran commissions are both trying to comply with the provisions contained in the General Peace Treaty.

NICARAGUA

TIRADO ADVOCATES L.A. ALLIANCE IF U.S. ATTACKS

PA250419 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez, member of the FSLN National Directorate, announced this morning that Nicaragua will ally itself with Latin American countries if the United States launches a direct attack against us.

The Sandinist leader stressed that Nicaragua will not ally itself with the USSR or any other country outside this continent, as Latin America should be the one to defend Nicaragua militarily.

If the United States does not intervene in Nicaragua, you can be sure that we will give our share for development; but if the White House insists on attacking us, we will ally within Latin American countries in order to get their military support, said Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez during a meeting with the solidarity group Swedish Volunteer Friends.

The military base installed by the United States in Honduras will have many consequences for that neighboring country and will generate serious internal conflicts, said Victor Tirado Lopez.

In addition, the Sandinist leader said that there will be elections in Nicaragua in 1985, in the midst of attacks and the economic crisis. He warned, however, that the revolution's main concern is not the elections, but the country's economic development.

HAVANA CITES CARLOS NUNEZ ON U.S. IN C.A.

FL241612 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1420 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Carlos Nunez, a member of the FSLN National Directorate and president of the Nicaraguan Council of State, has said that the Reagan administration is obstructing efforts to achieve a political settlement to the conflicts in Central America and that it intends to liquidate the Nicaraguan revolution.

In statements to PATRIA LIBRE magazine, the Sandinist commander said that U.S. imperialism utilizes Somozist bands and the reactionary Honduran military leadership as its main instruments against Nicaragua.

Carlos Nunez said that Washington has recently been engaged in creating a military bloc in Central America made up of regimes that will do its bidding and is using it against Nicaragua.

The president of the Nicaraguan Council of State also said that the United States is prepared to start a war in the area, which would have unforeseeable consequences.

COORDINATING BOARD REJECTS MILITARY SERVICE BILL

PA242225 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1952 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- During their meeting with State Council President Commander Carlos Nunez, leaders of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board stated that the obligatory nature of the military service bill, which is being debated in the parliament, "increases war preparations, contradicting the Cancun Declaration."

The Cancun (Mexico) Declaration, issued on 17 July by the presidents of the Contadora Group, asked for demilitarization of Central America.

The board's leaders told Commander Nunez that the move involves enlisting thousands of young people "in a political army, dominated by the FSLN, rather than in a national army."

Opposition spokesman Erick Ramirez told ACAN-EFE that the stance which the board adopted before the State Council president advocated the complete rejection of the bill under consideration.

Ramirez added that, "under the present circumstances, the military service bill affects the country's production and income, since many people will devote more time to military matters than to production." Ramirez also said he told Nunez that the measure would affect the academic performance of students, and that the board's militants disagree with the bill.

According to the leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, the obligatory nature of military service "increases war preparations and denies the possibility of free elections by subjecting thousands of young people between the ages of 17 and 25 to military law. In fact, these youths are to obey the government party's political and ideological views."

The leaders of the coordinating board -- Erick Ramirez, Luis Rivas Leiva, Roger Tigerino, Andres Zuniga, Juan Carlos Morales, and Carlos Huembes -- attended the meeting with Commander Nunez, as did Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, State Council secretary.

OFFICIAL GIVES FIGURES ON MURDERED TEACHERS

PA242321 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Ernesto Vallecillo, deputy education minister for adult education, has reported in Managua that more than 80 teachers, education workers, and student workers have been killed by counterrevolutionary groups in Nicaragua since the national crusade against illiteracy was begun 3 years ago.

He said that the number does not include 58 individuals involved in the campaign who were kidnapped. Vallecillo pointed out that despite counterrevolutionary actions, registration in adult education classes stands at 80 percent of capacity.

TRIBUNAL SENTENCES NINE 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

PA241924 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] An Anti-Somozist People's Tribunal today imposed prison sentences ranging from 7 to 30 years on nine counterrevolutionaries. The nine were found guilty of participating in activities aimed at destabilizing the Sandinist government.

One of those sentenced to 30 years is Silvio Robelo Ortiz, nephew of the counterrevolutionary Alfonso Robelo, who belongs to the so-called Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE]. Silvio Robelo headed the group that tried to sabotage the events on 19 July by setting fire to the platform in the square. The nine counterrevolutionaries were found guilty of having attempted to sabotage production centers, painting counterrevolutionary slogans, and carrying out diversionist activities against the revolution.

The group's objective was to form an internal front for ARDE, which is based in Costa Rica.

10 Sentenced for Sabotage

FL241440 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Ten counterrevolutionaries were sentenced in Managua to long jail terms for carrying out acts of sabotage and for attempting to jam [preparar interferencia] the Voz de Nicaragua radio station.

Those arrested possessed special equipment with which they attempted to interrupt broadcasts of the official radio station of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

UNIFICATION CHURCH IN HONDURAS LINKED TO CIA

PA221848 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Commentary: "Beyond the News": "Pseudoreligious Sect, Spearhead of Imperialism in Honduras"]

[Text] Along with the Green Berets, an even more insidious danger has arrived in our sister Central American country. It is the nefarious, pseudoreligious leader Mun Sun-myung, a wolf in sheep's clothing, the devil disguised as an angel who, with his false siren songs, is trying to divert young people from their social responsibilities.

This controversial South Korean messiah, who is a millionaire to boot, has chosen the strife-torn region of Central America to continue promoting his interests, which are more political and economic than religious. This time the pseudoreligious Unification Church is pursuing the youth of Honduras and is attempting to gain control over the National Autonomous University of Honduras.

This is not new. The same type of activity occurs in one form or another in the over 130 countries in which the Unification Church operates. Its main efforts are directed at the young, and it attempts to prevent them from paying attention to social problems. Several nations on the American Continent and in Europe have been the scene of demonstrations against this sect, which is accused of brainwashing young people to make them forsake their families and force them -- in payment for the alleged spiritual help they receive -- to roam the streets raising funds and proselytizing for the church.

In any event, the financial resources of the movement are not limited to the funds collected by the moonies, as they are called, but include a variety of businesses which enable their aging leader to live like a new messiah and to enjoy such earthly pleasures as a plush 25-room mansion on the banks of the Hudson River. Service stations, cattle ranches, hotels, banks, travel agencies, chemical and arms factories, and real estate holdings are some of the assets of Moon's financial-religious empire.

The most dangerous facet of the sect, however, is its rabid anticommunism. Because of this, it has repeatedly been linked to the CIA, which uses the sect to carry out its sinister plans against people struggling for liberation. In fact, the sect supported Nixon during the Watergate scandal and financed -- how could it not! -- a sizable part of Reagan's presidential campaign. Thus, it is easy to understand why its activities in Honduras and its mere presence as the trump card of North American policy in Central America transcend the limits of religion.

PASTORA TO TOUR U.S. SEEKING SUPPORT

PA250230 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2043 GMT 24 Aug 83

[By Jeannine Camps]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance's [ARDE] armed forces, will leave the battlefield temporarily to tour the United States in search of support from the Latin American community.

The tour will begin in Miami and will include Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans and Washington.

ARDE sources have told ACAN-EFE that Pastora will seek the solidarity of the increasingly influential Latin American community in the U.S. and will organize a base of support among Nicaraguans in exile.

The ARDE sources also told ACAN-EFE that the promises to help with weapons, made following Pastora's June cease-fire, have been kept and that the weapons are arriving on time.

In the political field, however, the support of democratic governments has not been received, despite recent contacts which ARDE has had with members of the Socialist International and the Contadora Group.

PASTORA TO DEAL 'MORTAL BLOW' TO SANDINISTS

PA241853 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1239 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] San Jose, 24 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, the anti-Sandinist leader, threatened to deal "a mortal blow to the dictatorship of the nine commanders" in an address commemorating the fifth anniversary of the occupation of the National Palace, which he led during the armed struggle against President Anastasio Somoza.

In a recording sent to ACAN-EFE, Pastora points out that Rotilo Miran, who took part in the attack on the palace, which freed several political prisoners from Somozist jails, was arrested for ringing the bells of a capital city church. The recording does not specify when Miran rang the church bells.

The anti-Sandinist leader says in the recording that "it must now be embarrassing for the group of traitors, on the fifth anniversary of the operation, to have one of the commandos who participated in jail, and to know that the one who led the offensive has turned against them.

Pastora announced that the "Voltage [voltaje] to the Sun" operation, which was scheduled to commemorate the palace occupation, had not yet been carried out due to circumstances beyond his control. Pastora pointed out that the operation will be "aimed at the heart of the traitorous syndicate."

He asked Nicaraguan mothers not to allow their children to go to the southern front, where he is operating, because they will encounter death. Pastora said that his forces are advancing "inexorably" and are already fighting in central and southern Zelaya and in Nueva Guinea.

ARDE CHALLENGES BORGE TO TELEVISION DEBATE

PA240422 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2338 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] San Jose, 23 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The political Secretariat of the Nicaraguan opposition Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), which is led by Eden Pastora, Brooklyn Rivera, and Alfonso Robelo, today challenged Sandinist Commander Tomas Borge to an open television debate in Costa Rica.

ARDE Political Secretary Anibal Arana said that they are proposing, to Borge in particular and to the FSLN in general, "a public dialogue with a member of the ARDE Directorate" so that, "between Nicaraguans, we can seek solutions that will bring peace and democracy" to the country.

The challenge was made after the ARDE Directorate learned that Interior Minister Borge is willing to participate in a television debate with Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state and chairman of Ronald Reagan's commission on Central America.

"Instead of debating a North American, we urged Borge to hold a dialogue with Nicaraguans," Arana added.

ARDE REPORTS EXECUTION OF 25 CUBANS

PA240418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2258 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] San Jose, 23 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Commander Eden Pastora, leader of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), has announced that 25 Cubans who were fighting with the Sandinist army in Nicaragua were executed by a firing squad in July.

According to the Sandinists, the Cubans were taken prisoner in several clashes between ARDE forces and the Sandinist army in the area of San Juan del Norte, near the Costa Rican border.

According to the rules in effect in Commander Cero's guerrilla army, Nicaraguan prisoners are turned over to the Costa Rican Red Cross, while the so-called "internationalists" are shot on the spot.

Commander Pastora has charged many times that there are Cuban officers in the Sandinist army, along with Palestinian pilots.

In the past 4 months of fighting on Nicaragua's so-called "Southern Front," ARDE's forces have turned over more than 80 Sandinist prisoners to the Costa Rican Red Cross. These prisoners were later repatriated.

VOICE OF SANDINO ON CLASHES IN RIO SAN JUAN

PA240437 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 24 Aug 83

[War Bulletin No 53 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) armed forces general command in the "Nicaraguan mountains" on 23 August]

[Text] The general command of the ARDE armed forces reports to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world that:

1. Early on Saturday, 13 August, our Francisco Rodriguez column clashed with the enemy at the La Estrella farm in Rio San Juan Department. After an exchange of rifle fire, we confirmed that the border guard troops of the Managua interventionist army sustained three dead and several wounded. We did not suffer any casualties.

2. At 1530 on 16 August, our Mauricio Sanchez Allon column clashed with a patrol for more than 40 minutes in (Punta Carrizal), Rio San Juan Department. Rifle fire and heavy weapons were used during this encounter. As a result of this action, we stopped the pursuit of 70 unarmed civilians, mostly women and children, who were fleeing to Costa Rica, trying to escape from the interventionist army's repression of peasants. After preventing a possible massacre, we escorted the civilians from (Punta Carrizal) to the Costa Rican border. They were turned over to the Costa Rican Red Cross as refugees.

As a result of this action, the border guard troops sustained eight dead and several wounded, including the official in charge of the enemy military garrison at Papaturro.

3. Our fighting columns showed courage and patriotism in both actions. They also protected the civilian population, of Nicaragua which is being harassed, persecuted, and taken to concentration camps.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past! Free fatherland or death!

EPS Attacks ARDE Base

PA240501 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 24 Aug 83

[War Bulletin No 54 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) armed forces general command in the "Nicaraguan mountains" on 23 August]

[Text] The general command of the ARDE armed forces informs the people of Nicaragua and the world that:

1. At 1000 on 16 August 1983, members of the Ezequiel column who were on a routine patrol near a lake captured a member of the militia. His .38-cal revolver and .22-cal rifle were confiscated. The prisoner was identified by his official card as Rosalio Lopez Cerda.

2. Another prisoner was captured by our Jacinto Baca Jerez column on 27 July 1983. The prisoner was identified as Israel Pineda Balladares, an officer in the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]. We recovered one AK-47 rifle and a Johnson 20 horsepower outboard motor and fuel tank. The EPS companero later joined our ARDE ranks led by Commander Eden Pastora.

3. At 0810 on 20 August 1983, our base at Yacatuca, south of the great lake on Nicaraguan territory, was attacked. The enemy launched his assualt using 56-mm and 22-mm weapons. We suffered two casualties. Companero Lionel was seriously wounded when he saved the life of the base commander. Companero Osvaldo was also wounded. These two men, brave soldiers in the army that defends our national sovereignty, are now at camp hospitals under heavy security.

4. The capture and proper treatment of prisoners and the conduct of patriotic dialogue with them when they are not involved in crimes against the people or are not foreign mercenaries continues to be the humanistic policy of the ARDE forces.

We don't hide our casualties, and our morale remains high.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past! Free fatherland or death!

CHAMORRO: FDN OFFENSIVE AIMS AT NEGOTIATIONS

PA240044 Paris AFP in Spanish 2028 GMT 23 Aug 83

[By Jean Pierre Bousquet]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Aug (AFP) -- Edgard Chamorro Coronel, one of the leaders of the anti-Sandinist Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, has indicated that the objective of the offensive launched by the FDN about 10 days ago is to maintain military pressure and to disrupt the Nicaraguan economy.

In an interview granted to AFP in Tegucigalpa at the end of July, Chamorro announced the planned offensive, explaining that the FDN wanted to maintain military pressure in order to show that there are "Nicaraguan people in rebellion," but primarily to cause domestic difficulties for the Sandinist government.

"We know that we cannot defeat the Sandinist regime militarily because it has reserves that seem to be inexhaustible," the FDN leader disclosed, stressing that, instead, given an already difficult economic situation, recurrent acts of intervention can increase the problems and provoke reactions of discontent.

The supply problems, the restrictions, and the permanent mobilization cause some discontent, Chamorro said. Condemning this situation in leaflets dropped from airplanes, the FDN has urged the population to protest and to go on strike.

"Our objective is to force the Sandinist leaders to recognize our movement and to negotiate. That is why we will pressure them with every available means," he added.

The FDN, which has accused the Sandinist government of "dividing the Nicaraguan family," believes that "unity is possible if the problems caused by the Cuban and Soviet intervention are solved."

Chamorro explained that his movement demands a return to the four points of the 23 June 1979 OAS resolution, which are an end to the Somozist dictatorship, the establishment of a democratic and pluralistic regime in Nicaragua, respect for human rights, and the organization of free elections.

"The Sandinists act toward us just as Somoza acted toward the Sandinists: They ignore us," Chamorro said, while stressing that his movement does not want a return to Somozism in any way whatsoever.

The political leader violently rejected the lebel of "Somozists" that some circle give the FDN because its general staff consists of former guardsmen for the dictator.

Although Chamorro admits that the five members of the staff served in the Somozist guard, he said that they did not hold important positions and that they did not participate in repressive operations against the Nicaraguan people. "They have a clean record; they have been chosen carefully," he said.

Although he admits that the presence of those former guardsmen -- who are there because of the need for trained individuals in those positions -- has caused some image problems, Chamorro announced that the staff has been opened to civilians. The first to be included is Indalecio Rodriguez Alaniz, former rector of the Central American University, who has already assumed his position.

The FDN, which admits the support of "friendly democratic countries," plans to increase its military capacity to 15,000 men. It was not disclosed whether these men are already trained and in camps.

"We will continue to infiltrate our combatants gradually, in small groups that are difficult to detect, until they reach objectives deep inside Nicaraguan territory," Chamorro indicated. The groups subsequently gather in task forces of up to 200 men for operations and then disperse once again, Chamorro added.

FDN REPORTS INTENSE FIGHTING IN JINOTEGA

PA230430 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 22 Aug 83 p 4

[Text] Clashes between guerrilla columns belonging to the Nicaraguan Democratic Forces, FDN, and Nicaraguan Sandinist army forces have steadily increased, according to the rebel station "15 September," transmitting from somewhere in the Nicaraguan mountains. The rebels declared that their "Christian guerrillas" are clashing continually with the Sandinist army, killing or wounding many of its troops.

It was also reported that several patrols from the "Diriangen" task forces under Commander Mike Lima engaged in an intense clash with the Managua troops at La Constancia Hill, near La Cimarrona, in Jinotega Department.

During the battle, which lasted several hours, a total of 30 regular Sandinist soldiers were killed, while the remainder fled in disarray when they realized that they had been defeated. The FDN, meanwhile, reported no casualties.

The Nicaraguan rebels indicated that some time later, also at La Constancia Hill, the FDN's Rafael and Ariel patrols, from the same "Diriangen" task forces, engaged the "Sandinist interventionist" troops in heavy fighting, inflicting 46 casualties on the Marxist regime's forces. Two bloodhounds belonging to the Sandinist dictatorship were also killed in the clash.

Radio "15 September" noted in its regular transmission last night that the FDN combatants also confronted government troops in a place called El Bramadero, in Jinotega Department, in a clash that lasted 7 hours. Casualties among the Sandinists were numerous, but the exact number could not be determined because of the intense fighting in the region.

According to reports sent by the rebel station's clandestine reporters, Commander Luis of the Sandinist militias was arrested by the communist regime when State Security agents learned that his group had surrendered and given their weapons to an FDN patrol in Santa Elena, south of San Juan del Rio Coco, in Madriz Department.

PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE DISCUSSED AT UN

Roa Presents Draft Resolution

FL241412 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Cuba has given its support to the independence of Puerto Rico with the presentation of a draft resolution to the UN Decolonization Committee, which is dealing with the colonial status of Puerto Rico, which is occupied by the United States.

The resolution, presented by Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri, Cuba's permanent UN representative, alludes to the commemoration this year of the bicentennial of the birth of Simon Bolivar, who was responsible for the realization of Latin American and Puerto Rican independence.

The draft resolution expresses the concern of the world community with the growing militarization of the island and with the intensification of repressive measures by the U.S. authorities against Puerto Rican patriots.

Committee Issues Resolution

FL242040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2003 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] The UN Decolonization Committee today approved a resolution condemning U.S. colonial policy in Puerto Rico and its growing militarization of that island. Concluding debate on the Puerto Rican issue, the committee approved the document, which once again called on the Washington administration to take whatever steps are necessary for the full and final transfer of sovereign powers to the Puerto Rican people.

The resolution condemned the statements and decisions of the U.S. Government concerning the expansion and reinforcement of its military installations in Puerto Rico as part of the growing militarization of that brother country. The UN Decolonization Committee also demanded the suspension of all repressive measures against Puerto Rican independence forces, including the intimidation activities of the Federal Grand Jury.

MALMIERCA BEGINS OFFICIAL TALKS IN WARSAW

FL241900 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Cuba and Poland today opened official talks in Warsaw which, according to the Polish press, would be concentrated on the expansion of cultural and scientific-technical cooperation, among other matters. The delegations are headed by the foreign ministers of Poland, Stefan Olszowski, and of Cuba, Isidoro Malmierca.

In his first official action in Poland, the Cuban foreign minister placed a wreath at the foot of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and signed the visitors book at that solemn site located in Victory Square in Warsaw. The monument, bearing an eternal flame and a special guard, was erected in honor of those who fell in the struggle against German fascism during World War II.

Isidoro Malmierca and his delegation then went to (Clarissae) Castle on the outskirts of the capital, where they were received by Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski and other members of the Polish delegation. The Cuban and Polish delegations began their official talks in plenary session.

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN RATIFIED

FL242110 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2014 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] The ratification of a cultural agreement between Cuba and Afghanistan has been signed at the Protocol Hall of the Foreign Ministry in Havana. The document was signed by Manuel Penado, Cuban ambassador to Afghanistan, and his counterpart, Abdol Samad Azhar.

After signing the protocol, the Cuban ambassador said the agreement will facilitate friendly relations which, despite geographical distance, Cuba and Afghanistan maintain based on a similarity of principles. The Afghan ambassador to our country said that Cuba's achievements in the cultural sector over the past 25 years provide examples for the development of Afghanistan in this very important field.

RAUL CASTRO CONGRATULATES FMC ON 23D ANNIVERSARY

FL241222 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee and FAR minister, sent a warm greeting to members throughout the country on the occasion of the 23d anniversary of the FMC.

Division General Raul Menendez Tomassevich, member of the Central Committee, and several MINFAR [Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces] directorate chiefs yesterday visited national FMC [Federation of Cuban Women] headquarters, where they presented FAR greetings to Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the women's organization. Numerous national-level leaders of the women's organization participated in the ceremony.

The FAR greeting said that Cuban women, faced with the tasks of the revolution, especially those dealing with defense, are today assuming the same admirable and exemplary attitude that they have maintained throughout Cuban history. With fervor and patriotism, they have been present at battles in the mountains and on the plains. They have occupied front-line positions every time the fatherland has been threatened.

Besides the many activities they have carried out during these years on all fronts of the revolution, FMC members have worked to improve the living conditions of our military units. They have also completed many other missions in the interest of strengthening the national defense.

In the FAR, the Ministry of the Interior, the National Revolutionary Militias, civil defense and now in the MTT [Territorial Troops Militia], Cuban women are demonstrating their willingness to defend the people's revolution at any price.

The message from the FAR to the FMC continued: Recently, the Federation of Cuban Women presented to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro the pledges of 1,882,935 FMC members to join the MTT. Now, this willingness is being materialized with the creation throughout the country of new MTT units with women members.

Fidel has said that in our country, defense is in the hands of all the people. We are sure that if our imperialist enemies force us to go to war, Cuban women, a noble part of this nation, will show what they are capable of in battle and in all other missions to defend the conquests of socialism.

The FAR greeting concluded: On this 23d anniversary of the founding of the Federation of Cuban Women, we repeat our congratulations and we wish you new successes in the completion of the organization's tasks. As our commander in chief said, women are more disciplined and quicker than men in classes and in combat training.

We are certain that you will continue writing glorious pages in the defense of the fatherland and of socialism with this same exemplary behavior. The message is signed by Army Gen Raul Castro, FAR minister.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

CUBAN ENVOY DISCUSSES CULTURAL EXCHANGE

FL241814 Bridgetown CANA in English 1745 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Aug 24, CANA -- Cuban Ambassador to the Caribbean, Ivan Cesar Martinez, [name and title as received] has said here that there are positive indications that the cultural links between Antigua and Barbuda and his country will be bridged through the exchange of artists.

The envoy said that there was every possibility that Antigua's number one brass band, Laviscount Brass, will be performing in Havana, while a Cuban troupe is expected to visit St Johns for a similar exercise.

Martinez, who is based in Havana, had discussions with the Antigua-Barbuda deputy prime minister, Lester Bird, on areas of cooperation in the fields of culture and sports.

Ambassador Martinez, who had made similar visits to Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, and Dominica, said his trip was aimed at strengthening bilateral relations.

He said that Cuba was in the Caribbean Basin and felt it had a right to develop close ties with its neigbors.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN ASSISTANCE -- St Johns, Antigua, Aug 20, CANA -- The Canadian Government has pledged continued assistance to Antigua and Barbuda for the foreseeable future. Outgoing Canadian High Commissioner to the Eastern Caribbean, Allan Roger, who paid his farewell visit here yesterday, told a press conference that there were two on-going projects in Antigua to which his government had pledged itself. One is a contribution of container handling equipment to the port of St Johns in order to improve efficiency, the envoy said. The second area of commitment, he said, related to the continued development of historic English Harbor as a major tourist attraction. "We have already invested some 750,000 EC dollars in a variety of small developments and separate projects at English Harbour," Roger said. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1403 GMT 20 Aug 83 FL]

BAHAMAS

SNAP DENIES PRIME MINISTER'S 'COMMUNISTS' CHARGE

FL241451 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 16 Aug 83 pp 1, 13

[By Anthony Forbes]

[Excerpts] Student leader Dennis Dames last night challenged Government to lay on the table of the House of Assembly "any evidence" that the advisers to the Student National Action Party (SNAP) are Communist infiltrators.

Mr. Dames, chairman of SNAP, said that Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling knows that the Bahamian majority is against the forced retiring of union leader Leonard Archer and through his Education Minister has said that Communists are in control of SNAP.

He told several hundred persons attending last night's rally that on February 3 SNAP sent to Sir Lynden a petition dealing with the educational and economic opportunities for young Bahamians.

"He has not answered SNAP. It looks like he is ignoring us but, in fact, he is hiding from us," Mr Dames told the crowd. "He is not ignoring us because he has sent his Education Minister, his administrative assistant, the Young Liberals, and even his wife to deal with SNAP."

He said that only the PLP [Progressive Liberal Party] minority supports the Prime Minister "and his bad ways."

"Sir Lynden knows that the Bahamian majority is against him in this Archer business so now he has his henchman [Education Minister] Rolle saying that Communists are in control of SNAP," Mr Dames said.

BARBADOS

MORE TRAINING PLANNED FOR DEFENSE FORCE

FL241353 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English 14 Aug 83 p 6

[Text] The Barbados Defence Force (BDF), which is this weekend observing its fourth anniversary with a series of activities, will be receiving additional training from established military forces.

This was announced last Friday during a fourth anniversary parade at the St. Ann's Fort, the Garrison. The announcement was contained in a statement read by Lieutenant Charlie Belle. It was signed by Army Chief of Staff of the BDF Colonel Rudyard Lewis.

It said the training will involve not only movement abroad by BDF's personnel but also more assistance locally by foreign personnel. The Force was also reminded of its roles and the commitments which those functions had placed on it.

The roles outlined were to assist the civil power in meeting any threat to national security, any form of aggression, and threat to the security of the island's port and coastal line, among others.

The statment noted that the commitment which such roles have placed on the force were participation in the regional security system, the build-up of our resource force, and especially of the Barbados regiment.

Others include the development and support of the National Youth Service, the administration and training of the Barbados Cadet Corps and the involvement in safety at sea, emergency services, and the Garrison committee.

It noted that in the next year such commitments will continue to tax the BDF's manpower and administrative resources, but "you must remember that the ability to react operationally is the priority and requires an ongoing interest in training."

EDITORIAL SEES DETERIORATING U.S. IMAGE

FL241311 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English 14 Aug 83 p 4

[Editorial: "U.S. Image Suffers"]

[Text] The just-concluded World Council of Churches [WCC] Assembly in Vancouver, Canada, will most likely be remembered by Barbadians as the Assembly at which a Barbadian, Dame Nita Barrow, was one of three women chosen to be WCC regional president. There are seven regional presidents in all. But in its overall significance the session reflected the growing disenchantment that United States foreign policy in South Africa and the Caribbean is facing.

What must be even more disturbing is that in spite of its known shortcoming on the international scene the Soviet Union, judging from the WCC deliberations, still manages to project a better image than the United States in certain aspects of international politics.

When the WCC came to decide on what stand it will take on Russia's intervention in Afghanistan, the Soviet voices at the session were able to use their influence to tone down any condemnation by the WCC. However, when the time came to look at the policy of the United States in Central America, especially in Nicaragua, nothing the U.S. delegate could do to soften the language used succeeded. The United States was roundly condemned. The Reagan Government was accused of trying to destabilise the Nicaraguan Government as part of an attempt to "contain the aspirations of the Central American people."

It is not hard to understand, however, why the United States, in spite of the strong case it has for being strong-armed in its Central American policy, is not winning wide support. For a start, many regard the present United States concern as coming too late. For too long it suited U.S. policy to allow known injustices in Central America, including Nicaragua, to go unchallenged.

The Russians have been able to ease in and assist what is being termed "the aspirations of the Central American peoples." All this is being done in the United States' backyard and the question that the United States must face is how far can it allow itself to lose influence in the area.

The same tone and approach comes over in the questions still hanging about South Africa. It is known that United States money plays a vital part in the economy of South Africa. It has always been felt that a tougher economic policy toward the South Africans by the United States would bring the South Africans to heel where their apartheid policy is concerned. But throughout the years no such policy has been forthcoming and it is difficult for the United States to impress the blacks in South Africa or any onlookers that they are really seriously concerned about the plight of the blacks.

Meanwhile, the Russians, at times using the Cubans as their surrogates, have been able to impress that they are willing to lay down lives for African freedom and to help the down-trodden. It is a move that has won them wide friendship in Africa.

In any gathering where these kinds of sentiments are strong, the United States would hardly be expected to receive any heavy support for its policies in Central America and South Africa. The Russians are benefitting from being judged on present concern and involvement while the Americans, in spite of determined and identifiable efforts of wanting to help, are still suffering from the policies and at times indifference of past Administrations toward Central America and Africa.

BRIEFS

DLP YOUTH ELECTIONS -- The Young Democrats, youth-arm of the Democratic Labour Party (DLP), have a new president. He is Mr Mark Todd and he takes over from Mr David Thompson, who did not stand for re-election. Mr Todd was elected yesterday when the group held its annual general meeting at DLP headquarters, George Street, St Michael. The chairman of meetings is Mr Malcolm Smith and the new president will select the other members to sit on the executive. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 15 Aug 83 p 1 FL]

HIGH COMMISSIONER DEPARTS -- Bridgetown-based Canadian High Commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Allan Roger, is ending his term of office next week, it has been announced here. [Text] [Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 18 Aug 83 p 1 FL]

GRENADA

BRIEFS

VENEZUELAN CHARGE DEPARTS -- St Georges, Grenada, Aug 13, CANA -- The Venezuelan charge d'affaires in Grenada, Romulo Nucete, is leaving Grenada tomorrow for a new posting in Cuba, it has been announced here. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1260 GMT 13 Aug 83 FL]

JAMAICA

WCC CRITICIZED FOR CONDONING SOVIET INTERVENTION

FL241627 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Aug 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Strange"]

[Text] We find it difficult to take the World Council of Churches [WCC] seriously. For how could one accept an organization which overwhelmingly condems the United States policy in Central America where there is not one U.S. soldier fighting against any Central American state, and yet at the same time refuses to accept a motion calling for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, a situation in which the Soviet Army has invaded a neighboring Third World country and continues in occupation.

This strange double standard of the World Council of Churches makes it difficult to accept its credibility. It is a pity that this same body should be the body which has inveighed against apartheid because one must feel cynical about their attitude to world policies.

We find it difficult to believe than non-Catholic churchmen should become so infiltrated by leftist ideas and leftist peace movement efforts that they can see only what is wrong with Western democracies, which incidentally are the basis of their financial support, as according to the annual report of the Council, 98 per cent of their finances still comes from churches in 13 western nations; and that they can see very little wrong in the stifling of human rights and the stifling of the rights to religion and worship in the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe. It is time that these churchmen wake up and become a body which can be respected for its integrity and objectivity on political matters in the international world.

CDB ANNOUNCES LOANS OF $55 MILLION IN 1982

FL241557 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] The Caribbean Development Bank lent to private and public sector organizations funds totalling US$55 million during 1982. This was disclosed by the bank's president, Mr William Demas, at a press conference held at the Rose Hall Beach Hotel in Montego Bay on Saturday.

Mr Demas noted that the $55 milion was lent directly by the CDB as well as through the various National Development banks. He stated that governments within the region were adequately availing themselves of the funds provided by the CDB but observed that many people did not know that the Bank also lent to private investors.

Commenting on a question raised about discrimination against Guyana and Grenada in granting loans by the Caribbean Development Bank, Mr Demas said that there was within the Bank's charter a clear statement to the effect that no member country should be discriminated against on political grounds.

He also agreed that the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) should widen its scope to include non-English-speaking members of the Caribbean archipelago. But, he emphasized, before this is done, there should be a deepening of the relationships among the English-speaking group.

The press conference was called by the Jaycees as part of their 18th annual state convention held at the hotel between August 12 and 14. Mr Demas declared the convention open.

Present at the press conference were Jaycees Public Relations Officer Miss Elaine Allen; State President Vernon Ricketts; Senator Ossie Harding; West Indies President Lincoln Kokoram; International Vice President Hu Whittaker; and Convention Director Miss Valerie Bloomfield.

BOJ QUARTERLY REPORT SHOWS RISE IN TRADE DEFICIT

FL241848 Bridgetown CANA in English 1654 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 24, CANA -- Jamaica's trade deficit rose 44 percent during the first three months of the year to 193 million dollars (U.S.), the central bank here said.

In its latest quarterly report, the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) said preliminary data on external trade for the first quarter compared with the same period last year indicated that while imports recorded a 14.2 percent rise to 342.9 million dollars (U.S.), exports declined by some 10 percent to 149.9 million dollars (U.S.).

The Bank of Jamaica said that imports of consumer and capital goods registered increases of 29 percent and 37 percent, respectively.

Imported raw materials, including fuel, fell marginally. The Bank of Jamaica said: "The decline in exports mainly reflects the weak performance of the country's traditional exports."

"The non-traditional group managed to record growth of 17.1 percent notwithstanding the lower level of raw material imported, reflecting a drawdown of existing stocks," the bank announced.

"CARICOM trade was disrupted during the review period due to adverse reactions on the part of Jamaica's regional trading partners to the introduction of the formalized parallel market in January when it was agreed that exports to CARICOM would be at the official rate while imports from the region would be at the parallel market rate.

"At the close of the quarter, discussions were still taking place to find an acceptable solution. These discussions culminated in agreement in May, whereby a special rate (one U.S. dollar to 2.25 Jamaican dollars) for CARICOM transactions was implemented by Jamaica.

"In the area of production, available information on the first quarter of 1983 indicates that there have been mixed results when compared with the corresponding period of 1982.

The mining sector continued to be affected by the depressed state of the overseas aluminium market. Bauxite output declined by some 29 percent while that of alumina went up nine percent when compared with the position of the first quarter of 1982.

"The performance of this sector should improve gradually as the recession in the U.S.A. comes to an end and special arrangements to expand output materialise in the agricultural sector.

"Banana exports continued to pick up with a 14.5 percent increase recorded, but sugar production suffered a slight decline as a consequence of the late start of the 1983 crop due to industrial disputes.

"The available evidence suggests that domestic agriculture has been affected by the severe drought. The construction sector showed signs of positive growth on the basis of increased credit and higher cement output. The manufacturing sector's mixed performance is mainly associated with the foreign exchange shortage together with labour problems.

During the quarter, consumer prices, as measured by the all-island index (Jan 1975 equal 100), rose by 3.2 percent, or slightly more than double the rise recorded in the comparable period of 1982.

The "food and drink" sub-index, which has a weight of about 53 percent, rose by 3.5 percent at a faster rate than the total index and was therefore responsible for most of the overall increase.

"At the end of the review period, inflation was moving at an annual rate of 12.8 percent. The introduction of a formalised parallel market in January 1983 no doubt contributed to the faster rise in prices.

The bank said the second year of the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) programme came to an end on March 31, 1982.

On that date, certain targets established under the programme were not met because of the failure of some programmed external flows to materialise during the final quarter of the year.

"The full amount of resources due from the IMF during the second year of the programme (191 million dollars U.S.) had already been drawn down by January.

"However, as a prerequisite for securing approval of the programme for the third year of the EFF programme, the government requested a waiver from the fund in respect of the breaches of the performance criteria as of March 31.

"On January 10, 1983, the government introduced a new set of economic measures against the background of a continued weak bauxite-alumina performance, unsettled international money and capital markets, and consequent foreign exchange shortage.

"These measures included the establishment of a two-tier foreign exchange market -- the official market, where the exchange rate remains at 1.78 (Jca) dollars, equal to one U.S. dollar, and a formalised parallel market in which rates are determined by the commercial banks on the basis of supply and demand. The latter market institutionalised the informal "street" market in foreign exchange which had existed for some time.

"The other major aspect of the measures was an incentive scheme for non-traditional exports whereby they are allowed to retain up to 50 percent of their export sales to countries outside the CARICOM region. The funds so retained can be utilised for the importation of raw materials, spare parts, and capital goods.

"If such retained funds are needed, they can be sold to the commercial banks at the going parallel market rate.

"The new measures also introduced a quota system designed to bring about the efficient allocation of foreign exchange resources among the broad categories of imports and to ensure that the overall import target is not exceeded.

"During the first quarter of 1983, the monetary system was characterised by a further tightening of liquidity which had begun during the second half of 1982 when loan demand began to outstrip the growth of deposits.

"The liquid assets ratio, which at the close of 1982 stood at 38 percent, slipped to 36.8 percent at the end of March 1983. Given the tight liquidity situation, there was a strong upward movement in the level of some interest rates.

"The average discount rate on treasury bills rose from 9.26 percent in December 1982 to 12.31 percent in March 1983 while short-term deposit rates went up by some three percentage points over the period.

"After evaluating the situation against the background of the voluntary 40 percent liquid asset ration introduced in January 1979, the Bank of Jamaica raised the statutory ratio form 29.5 percent to 34.5 percent effective February 7, 1983. There would be further increases in the statutory ration to bring it fully in line with the voluntary 40 percent ratio.

"To deal with this situation, the Bank of Jamaica advised the banks that effective April 21, 1983 the statutory liquid assets ratio would be fixed at 36 percent and the voluntary 40 percent requirement would be terminated simultaneously.

"During the quarter, whereas narrow money (M1) recorded a decline of about 4 percent to 705.4 million (Jca) dollars, quasi-money(time and savings deposits) rose by 11 percent to 1,807 million (Jca) dollars.

"Seasonal factors led to a decline in the currency component of money supply, while interest rate considerations were responsible for the rise in quasi-money and the shift of non-interest-bearing demand deposits.

"Loans extended by the commerical banks increased by 6.2 percent to 2.084.8 million (Jca) dollars in the first three months of 1983 compared with 2.2 percent expansion in the corresponding period of 1982.

"It is interesting to note that most of the reproductive sectors (agriculture, manufacturing and construction) raised their percentage share of the overall credit outstanding during the review period. The largest single increase went to the construction sector, reflecting the resurgence of this sector from its depressed state of a few years ago.

"Among the other financial institutions, the building societies were also affected by the general tightness of liquidity in the financial system. This was further reinforced by movements in the March 1983 quarter which included very high rates of savings withdrawals together with a fairly low rate of repayment.

"Among the other non-banks, the trust companies increased their loans and advances by 23.2 million (Jca) dollars while their desposits showed very little movement overall. In the case of the merchant banks, their loans and advances and deposits increased by 4.9 million (Jca) dollars and 6.1 million (Jca) dollars, respectively.

"According to available information on the government's financial operations for April 1983, the first omonth of fiscal year 1983/84, total revenue amounted to 93.2 million (Jca) dollars or 3.5 million (Jca) dollars above the amount collected in April 1982, with total net expenditure of 229 million (Jca) dollars.

"During April 1983, an overall deficit of 135.8 million (Jca) dollars was recorded compared with one of 96.4 million (Jca) dollars in April 1982. The bulk of the deficit in April 1983 was financed by the domestic banking system."

BRIEFS

BAUXITE PRODUCTION -- Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 17, CANA -- Jamaica's bauxite production for the first half of this year declined by 28 percent when compared with output during the same six-month period of 1982, the Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI) has reported. According to the figures released today, bauxite output for the last January to June period was 3.6 million tonnes, compared with last year's first half production of 4.5 million tonnes. The JBI forecast that the calendar year production of bauxite would be 7.7 million tonnes, a 600,000-tonne decline on 1982's 8.3 million tonnes and continuing the trend of the past two years in the recession-hit industry. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1643 GMT 17 Aug 83 FL]

INDIA TO JOIN IBA -- Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 22, CANA -- India is to join the Kingston-based International Bauxite Association (IBA) by early next year, the IBA announced here today. An IBA statement said that the Indian cabinet had already approved the proposal for membership within the grouping and that all the procedural requirements should be completed in 1984. "The admission to the IBA will be an auspicious event because of the country's importance as a producer of bauxite and its derivatives and of the major role India is playing in international affairs, besides being the current chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, "the IBA said. The entry of India will also bring membership in the association back to 11. Present members are: Australia, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Sierra Leone, Suriname, and Yugoslavia. The other founding member of the association, Haiti, had to withdraw as a full member last year when its bauxite industry all but shut-down. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1845 GMT 22 Aug 83 FL]

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

EDITORIAL VIEWS COALITION'S 'DEAL' FOR NEVIS

FL221940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1751 GMT 22 Aug 83

[CANA presents this item as a "special feature" by journalist and former Guyanese Information Officer Frank Campbell, "focusing on a deal worked out by the island's coalition government settling the question of how Nevis would be run after independence." CANA adds: "The opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer and should not be interpreted as being those of CANA."]

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, Aug 22, CANA -- On Monday September 19 St Kitts-Nevis will become the only federation within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

This proposed federation represents an attempt to contain the divisions that caused Anguilla to secede in 1967 and nearly caused Nevis to follow.

So generous are the provisions being made for Nevis, which is but half the size of St Kitts, that opposition leader Lee Moore has dubbed the arrangement an "Orwellian absurdity" which treats Nevis as "more equal" than St Kitts. Premier Kennedy Simmonds firmly refutes Mr Moore's contention.

Two questions arise from these developments. Firstly, can the St Kitts-Nevis federation experiment succeed? The second question is whether it can serve as a model for the rest of the Caribbean where, as that great historian-statesman Eric Williams wrote a few years ago, "fragmentation goes to such fantastic lengths as would make the angels weep."

The March-April issue of the CARICOM Secretariat's Newsletter, "CARICOM Perspective," notes that the new constitution "not only gives Nevis its own legislature but also enables Nevis to have its own premier and its own deputy governor general. The Nevis island legislature will be able to make laws "for the peace, order and good government of the island of Nevis" with respect to "specified matters."

The premier of Nevis will have an effective veto over the power of the national Parliament to pass laws on such "specified matters."

These matters range from agriculture to tourist amenities. They also include the employment of non-nationals, and economic planning and development "other than national planning and development," as well as the power to extend the life of the Nevis island assembly by up to five years "at any time Her Majesty is at war."

Even where Nevis is not granted legislation power, the island is in most cases being granted administrative power and responsibility. This applies, for example, to airports and seaports, mineral extraction and processing, education, health and welfare, labour, and even the licensing of exports and imports.

The Nevis premier will even be able to give instructions on the security or defence of Nevis to the head of the police or of any defence contingent stationed on the island provided that such instructions do not contradict any instructions given by the country's prime minister.

According to the "CARICOM Perspective": "Perhaps the most significant right -- certainly the most controversial one -- accorded to the people of Nevis by the constitution is the right to "cease to be federated with the island of St Christopher (St Kitts) if they so decide." A two-thirds affirmative vote in the assembly and a referendum among Nevis voters must precede a secession.

Is this kind of decentralisation which is proposed for the 44,000 people of St Kitts-Nevis feasible in the other twin-island or multi-island CARICOM states? I should think not -- at least not at present.

This amazingly generous constitutional devolution results not so much from the generosity of the ruling People's Action Movement (PAM) as from the hard bargaining by its junior coalition partner, the Nevis Reformation Party (NRP).

After the 1980 election, the first following the death of national father-figure Robert Bradshaw, the NRP, with its established electoral monopoly in Nevis, and the PAM, the consistent underdog in St Kitts, combined to oust the previously entrenched St Kitts-Nevis Labour Party, now headed by Moore, a brilliant and youthful lawyer and orator.

As far as I know, this situation in which the major governing party depends on the political representatives of the smaller island to stay in power does not exist anywhere else in the Commonwealth Caribbean.

In Antigua and Barbuda, the Antigua Labour Party has held almost undisputed power since 1946 except for the period 1971 to 1976 when premier (now prime minister) Vere Bird spent a brief while as leader of the opposition.

Neither in government nor in opposition has the major alternative party, the Progressive Labour Movement, embraced the concept of a clear, separate identity for Barbuda. However, the PLM has supported greater autonomy for Barbuda than that provided by the Barbuda local government act [of] 1976 which was liberalised somewhat in 1981.

Barbuda, unlike Nevis, has never been fortunate enough to capture the political balance of power. Nor has the Barbudan secessionist movement been as strong, united and well-organised as its Nevis counterpart except perhpas around 1980-82, just before and after independence.

In Trinidad and Tobago, since the Parliament voted to establish the 12-member Tobago House of Assembly in 1980, the opposition Democratic Action Congress (DAC) led by former Deputy Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson, has firmly controlled the assembly. The Tobago seats in the national Parliament had been under DAC control since 1976.

The DAC, however, while making the same complaints of neglect, colonialism and powerlessness that the other "little twins" have made, supports "internal self-government for Tobago within the unitary state of Trinidad and Tobago." However, the DAC adds, in the words of its leader: "Are we wanted or not? If not, then let us go in peace."

Interpreting the DAC's position in an editorial on July 4 last year, the TRINIDAD EXPRESS said: "From the start, Mr Robinson and his supporters have campaigned for a House of Assembly that would be a cut or two above the average satutory board or local government agency."

Mr Robinson and the DAC are unlikely to upgrade their demands merely because of the Nevis breakthrough.

Even if they do, the main ingredient for a Nevis-type settlement in Tobago -- a DAC balance-of-power position in the parliamentary configuration -- is inconceivable unless the opposition parties in Trinidad and Tobago improve significantly their national electoral performance.

St Vincent and the Grenadines came closest to fulfilling that criterion. Mr James Mitchell, independent candidate for the Grenadines in the 1972 elections, held the balance between the two big parties, threw his weight behind the opposition party and bargained himself into the premiership.

A year earlier, he had resigned from the Cato government as minister of agriculture, trade and tourism after charging neglect of the Grenadines where Mr Mitchell himself had been born.

However, given the volatile political situation of those days and the remoteness of independence, Mr Mitchell, even if he tried, could hardly have achieved the kind of lasting compact which the Nevis Reform Party [NRP] was later able to negotiate.

Apparently, then, the question to be examined is not whether the St Kitts-Nevis idea can be exported. It simply cannot -- not just now, anyway. The question is whether the experiment can work in St Kitts-Nevis itself.

A political irony faces Premier Simmonds.

The 9,300 people of Nevis are happy about the new constitution though even on Nevis I was able to feel vibes of lingering skepticism when I visited the two islands during the constitutional debate. The real problem this time is with the 35,000 people of St Kitts.

The opposition continues to occupy the majority of the St Kitts seats in the House of Assembly. Even government supporters admit that Lee Moore and his party are far from being a spent force.

The federal constitution is one of the issues on which they are likely to agitate until they get back into power. And if they ever get back into power then the NRP is likely to lead Nevis out of the federation as Lee Moore himself has predicted.

So, the new constitution notwithstanding, the question remains whether the angels will yet keep for a fragmented St Kitts-Nevis or, more generally, for a fragmented Caribbean.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ANALYST VIEWS PNM LOCAL ELECTION DEFEAT

FL242000 Bridgetown CANA in English 1900 GMT 24 Aug 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Aug 24, CANA -- The defeat of Trinidad and Tobago's ruling party in recent local government elections could be seen as a warning that the corruption scandals, increased unemployment, and government inefficiency were reaching intolerable limits, says political analyst Neville Linton.

In an article assessing the results, the Guyana-born part-time lecturer at the University of the West Indies (UWI) campus here said it was "a healthy birthday present" for Trinidad and Tobago to have broken the pattern of one-party dominance.

Linton, a former senior lecturer at the Institute of International Relations, said Trinidadians had apparently followed an opposition politician's suggestion and used the elections as a referendum against the government.

Following is Linton's assessment of the elections:

"The local government elections in Trinidad and Tobago this month were historic since it was the first time since 1959 that the People's National Movement (PNM) had ever been beaten in such elections. There was a clear victory for the United Opposition Front, called for election purposes the "Accommodation", as the final tally was 66 seats to the "Accommodation" and 54 seats to the PNM.

The "Accommodation" was an electoral agreement between the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) led by Karl Hudson-Phillips and the National Alliance. The latter is a three-party coalition dating back to the 1981 general elections of the United Labour Front (Basdeo Panday), the Democratic Action Congress (A.N.R. Robinson) and the Tapia House Movement (Michael Harris).

Since Tobago now has its own assembly the recent elections were only in Trinidad, and thus the DAC of Robinson chose not to offer any candidates at this level in Trinidad. It does contest in Trinidad at the national level.

The PNM offered candidates in all 120 seats, the ONR in 65, the Alliance in 52. One other party contested the elections -- the National Joint Action Committee (Geddes Granger -- Nakandal Daaga) and they offered 104 candidates. There were only five independents. NJAC won no seats, and independents similarly. The 66 "Accommodation" seats were divided 26-ONR, 38-ULF, and Tapia -- two. Thus the ULF won 38 of the 46 seats it contested and was the most successful party.

The "national" personalities of the party did not participate in these local elections, but both the PNM and the "Accommodation" sought to present some candidates of a higher calibre than usual in local government elections.

Preliminary figures showed that the PNM received about 42 percent of the popular vote and the "Accommodation" 51 per cent. By comparison, in the 1980 local government elections, the PNM received 57.8 per cent and the ULF 31.8 per cent, while in 1977 the PNM received 51.1 per cent and the ULF 37.8 per cent. In 1977 the turnout was 29.4 per cent, 1980 also 29.4 per cent and 1983, 33.6 per cent. The 1983 poll was nonetheless a low poll, and low polls normally favour the PNM, as it is the only party with an established nationwide machinery for mobilising support.

But in this, the highest turnout in recent local government elections, the PHN for the first time had less than 50 per cent of the votes cast. This is of significance since in all elections, local and general, since the mid-1960's, some 40 per cent of the electorate seems to comprise floating or undecided voters, and since, from the beginning of the seventies, some 45 per cent or more of the electorate does not participate in the general elections.

It therefore suggests that if the substantial numbers of non-participants can be motivated, elections in Trinidad and Tobago could be very competitive.

Looked at from other perspectives, the results show that the ruling party kept its majority in the urban centres, by 24 seats to 10, winning in Port of Spain, San Fernando, Arima and Point Fortin. However, in all of these, save the new borough of Point Fortin, the opposition not only made an unusually good showing, but unseated the mayors of San Fernando and Arima. The mayor of Port of Spain did not seek re-election.

It was the first time in 15 years that the opposition had gained any seats in the Port of Spain Council. In the country councils the dominance was overwhelmingly to the opposition. The most striking case was Country Caroni, traditionally a ULF stronghold, but one where the PNM had made unusual inroads in 1980 by a historic winning of eight of the 12 seats there.

This gain was reinforced at the 1981 general election when the PNM again won some new seats in the sugar belt. But in 1983 the reversal back to "normal" was complete, since the "Accommodation" took all 12 seats, ULF-11 and ONR-one. Also in St George East, normally a PNM area, the opposition won seven to five.

The elections have reinforced the indications of the 1981 general elections that the ONR is capable of amassing significant votes in the "northern corridor," the traditional stronghold of the PNM. As voting was on much smaller unit bases than in the constituencies of the general elections, the weight of each party's votes was more significant, and the real support which the ONR has, on this occasion, did result in the tangible benefit of seats. In the 1981 general elections the ONR collected 91,000 votes and got 22 per cent of the popular vote but did not win a single seat. The Alliance got 21 per cent and 10 seats, while the PNM with 54 per cent got 26 seats.

The elections also showed that a revitalised ULF is still a significant force, and that it can mobilise its supporters; however, it was clear that the ULF benefitted most directly from the "Accommodation" as the non-participation and support of the ONR in several seats contributed to the size of its victories.

The inability of Tapia to field many candidates at this level also reinforced the marginal role of that party in the Alliance coalition -- its influence remains largely in the realm of respect for its intellectual and cultural ideas and integrity. By contrast, NJAC, which goes through the motions of being a vigorous party fielding many candidates, and even having a "shadow cabinet," continues to get a minimal response.

The runup to the elections was exceptionally vigorous for local elections; indeed the style of the parties was as if they were in general elections — campaigning was intense, and much of the paraphernalia of a major contest, such as motorcades and door-to-door campaigning, were used. While the pace was set by the opposition, the PNM was itself unusually busy. They early showed signs of concern, particularly in the statements of prominent leaders -- Minister of Agriculture Kamal Mohammed pulled a gaffe when he warned an audience that if they voted for an opposition-dominated council, the new non-PNM authority might find itself starved of funds by the government.

The dynamic ULF parliamentarian, John Humphrey, in a political speech, informed the public that his family had received death threats, and that, in reply, he was letting the country know that if indeed they were killed, arrangements had already been made to wipe out members of the PNM hierarchy in retaliation. There was a severe press criticism of both of these intemperate statements, but the events were symptomatic of the combative political mood of the time.

Of course, the corruption scandal of the bribery charges against the former Minister John O'Halloran, which surfaced over the last year, did not help the PNM, nor did the furor in the month before the election over the government decision to give a construction contract of over 270 million dollars (one TT dollar; 41 cents U.S.) to a Korean firm at a time of increasing unemployment.

Local government issues did matter in the election, in particular the over-centralisation of power in the hands of the central government and the poor record of the PNM in local government. But the election was really fought as a mini-general election on national issues, and Basdeo Panday called on the people to "use the elections as a referendum against the government."

Apparently they did. The vote could be seen as a warning that the corruption scandals, increased unemployment, and government inefficiency were reaching intolerable limits. Trinidadians apparently do not really "like it so."

After the victory, before the largest political crowd in Woodford Square in 13 years, Hudson-Phillips declared that "Trinidad is poised for the next political cycle" while Panday observed that the "Accommodation's" victory "might have prevented a violent revolution in the country."

The euphoric note of these leaders, however, was moderated by the remark of Tapia's Harris that the significance of the results was not to be overestimated since the public made clear distinctions between local and general elections; therefore, the urgent task was to "extend and deepen the current Alliance".

PNM's Overand Padmore, minister of education, in a positive mood, felt that the meaning of the results should not be exaggerated and that it was simply a warning to the PNM to pull their socks up. However, with votes now having to be seriously competed for, the PNM might find it more difficult to apply tough economic measures.

Prime Minister George Chambers, in his usual low-key style, had taken no part in this election campaign. But the results do show that it was of real importance, and there is a feeling in some political circles that the defeat might boost moves to oust him from office. It could also have the opposite effect — tighten party links. Another post-election expectation is that the government will frustrate the workings of the opposition councils, indeed the opposition has already said that it is geared for confrontation politics.

Certainly there is new life in the political process in Trinidad and Tobago. The PNM, without the charismatic figure of the "Doc" (the late Dr Eric Williams), is on the defensive, while the ONR now has established itself as a genuine political force. The important test ahead will be whether the ONR will stick together with the Alliance or seek to make it on its own.

The PNM no doubt will try to improve its image vis-a-vis both efficiency and corruption. Whatever happens, it was a healthy 21st birthday present for Trinidad and Tobago to have broken the pattern of one-party dominance, which in recent years was clearly producing seriously inefficient government and emasculating social and political progress."

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT REGISTERS DEFICIT -- Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Aug 23, CANA -- The Trinidad and Tobago Government chalked up a 1.2 billion dollar fiscal deficit for the first half of this year, according to Central Bank statistics released here. The bank's latest quarterly bulletin put the second quarter deficit at 120.8 million dollars (one TT dollar; 41 cents U.S.). For the first quarter it amounted to 1,107.2 million dollars. For January to June government expenditure outstripped revenue by 1,228 million dollars compared to a deficit of 1,403.1 million dollars over the corresponding period last year, the bank's economic bulletin showed. Foreign reserves dipped from a high of 7.6 billion dollars at the end of 1982 to 5.9 billion dollars at the end of the first quarter of this year and were still declining. Trinidad and Tobago's slipping economic performance is linked to a continuing decline in earnings from its main revenue earner, petroleum. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2210 GMT 23 Aug 83 FL]